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TOLEDO WEEKLY BLADE

HOW ABOUT PENSIONS?
READ ARTICLE ON FOURTH PAGE.

VOLUME LVIII. TOLEDO, OHIO: THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1890. NUMBER 10.

Our New Serial Story.

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A TEMPERANCE STORY.

BY

Thomas W. Knox

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SYNOPSIS OF PREVIOUS CHAPTERS.

The story opens in Liberty, a New England village. Dick is the son of John Graham, a workingman, who is addicted to drink. The downward course of the latter, until he becomes a sot, so far under the control of the rum appetite that he cannot touch liquor without getting wildly intoxicated, is given in detail. His family come to want, and he loses his employment. He is finally put into jail on suspicion of robbery, which he did not commit. The forced abstinence from rum while imprisoned makes him try once more to reform. In this he is seconded by Dr. Green, who treats inebriety as a disease, and other citizens. John Graham is given work by a farmer, who pays his wages to Mrs. Graham, thus following his custom to have any money to buy rum. Dick, then a lad, is taken as clerk in Mr. Webster's store. He proves himself industrious, zealous and faithful, and saves the store from robbery by trapping two burglars in the cellar. Dick has a boyish liking for Sarah Gove, a girl of about his own age, who lives alone with her father, who is a confirmed drunkard. Their affection went on for years, until her father was finally imprisoned for theft, and Sarah became "help" in a farmer's family. Dick and Sarah then became formally engaged. Mr. Varney, a wealthy New York merchant, whose boyhood home was in Liberty, revisited the place and renewed his old-time acquaintance with Mr. Webster. Dick's employer first is attracted by the good qualities of Dick, and proposes to take him into his employ in New York. Dick goes to the city and begins work. He lives at a boarding-house with a number of the boy clerks. They sneer at his temperance principles, and nickname him "Teetotaller Dick." Although Mr. Varney required all his clerks to abstain from intoxicants, Dick finds that some of them drink outside of business hours, thus interpreting his requirement to mean that they were to abstain only while actually at work. Dick proposes to ask Mr. Varney if that interpretation is correct, but the fellow-clerks call him not to do so. They finally decide to get Dick drunk by stratagem, in order that he may be prevented from mentioning the matter to Mr. Varney. They accomplished this by drugging Dick's tea, and when he became unconscious poured whisky down his throat. On finding Dick's ghastly face the next day, Mr. Varney instituted inquiries, found out all about the plot, and summarily discharged all the clerks implicated in it. John Thomson, a fellow-boarder of Dick's, but not in Mr. Varney's employ, finding the risk Dick ran of dying from the drugging and dosing, declared to Dick his resolve also to become a teetotaller, and a close friendship between the two was the result. They spend their vacation together at Great South Bay, on the shore of Long Island; while sailing with a drunken boatman, Thomson was thrown into the water, and narrowly escaped drowning.

CHAPTER XXV.

A TEETOTALLER GAMBLER.

DAY or two later there was a regatta in which several boats owned by gentlemen living near the Bay competed for prizes. Our friends went to see the race between the boats and at the invitation of one of the members of the club under whose auspices the race was held they went ashore to the club-house. There was a brilliant assemblage of the summer residents of the south side of Long Island, and the space at the rear of the club house was crowded with carriages. In the language of one of the reporters who had come down from the city, the wealth and fashion of the country for miles around was gathered to see the race, and to partake of the generous hospitality of the yacht club.

The generous hospitality was principally that of a leading member of the club who lived close by, and was known and noted for his liberality. On this occasion he had caused an immense bowl to be filled with punch, which was free to all who chose to come; and not content with this, he had a large quantity of liquors in bottles, so that any one who did not take kindly to punch was free to help himself to anything else, or rather to be helped by the servants in attendance.

Several matches were sailed between the boats of different classes, and as the wind was light the greater part of the day was consumed by the race. Of course Dick and his companions declined all invitations to drink, but they could not get away from sight and sound of the carousal without leaving the place together. Towards night it was very evident that a goodly number of people were under the influence of the free punch and other things, and several men were unable to walk except with difficulty. There was no disorder—the people were too good natured for that—but the scene was not calculated to be looked on with approval by any friend of temperance.

A short time later there was a regatta at the same locality, and somebody asked the generous entertainer if he was going to keep open bar again.

"Not by any means," was his reply, "I shall never set out the punch bowl and drinks in general as I did. I've been thinking it over, and conclude that I could convert all the people of this county into drunkards by giving them free liquor. Nothing more would be needed. What they did not drink the other day they carried off in bottles, so my servants tell me, and they certainly used up a great quantity of stuff."

"Could you not say the same of any other community in the country?" said one of his auditors.

"Quite likely," the gentleman answered. "But I certainly never imagined they would fill themselves as full as they did here, just because it cost nothing."

"It wasn't the men in their sober feelings that did it," said the other; "it was the alcohol they took at first which created the thirst for more. Then they became avaricious, and so the avarice grew with each additional drink.

"Have you ever observed how much more drinking there is at dinner where wine is included in the price of the entertainment than where each man orders and pays for himself or the group about him? Gentlemen who are liberal in every way and without a suspicion of meanness, will fill themselves far more readily on free wine than on what they pay for. You have seen this often and you've also seen how men at such a time will fill their pockets with cigars, far beyond the quantity they can smoke at the dinner. Mind you, I'm speaking all the time of gentlemen of good standing and not of loafers. It's the demoralizing effect of the alcohol in the wine they've drank, not enough to intoxicate them so that they show it, but sufficient to blunt their finer feelings and develop the acquisitiveness in their animal nature. Certainly there is no demoralizer like rum and its kindred."

In his admirable book on "Inebriety; Its Causes, Its Results, Its Remedy," Dr. Franklin D. Clum says as follows, in speaking of the effects of alcohol:

"Drunkenness stupefies the senses, destroys the memory, blunts the understanding and fills men with disease. Alcoholic drinks are the fruitful source of a long train of evils. They make us vain and self-confident, inconsistent with ourselves, rash and unguarded in our conduct, silly and ridiculous, a nuisance to respectable people, mistaken in our views of life, censorious and malignant, ugly and quarrelsome, coarse and brutish, paupers and beggars, vagabonds and criminals, wretched and diseased, and at last bring us to an early death, although we are not prepared to die, and yet are unfit to live."

Dick and his friends had no further mishap in their vacation that year; they took good care to have a man at the helm of their boat whose brain was not clouded by the use of intoxicating drinks.

Mr. Varney's business required frequent trips of a confidential representative to Boston, Philadelphia, New Orleans, Chicago and other cities of the United States, and it was Dick's good fortune to be selected for some of these missions. He discharged his duties so as to win the admiration of his employer, who felt entire confidence that the young man would never be led away by convivility to the neglect or improper management of business. Several attempts of this sort were made by men with whom the house had dealings, but they were complete failures, as will be readily understood by our readers. Afterwards in speaking of these experiences Dick said to a friend:

"There's a notion among many young men, and older ones, too, that one is obliged to drink in order to get along well with business, particularly with Western men. The farther West you go the more drinking you find among business men, but I do not believe I ever made a single failure in consequence of declining to imbibe. When invited I do not say 'I never drink,' as men may be sensitive on that point, and think I am setting up as superior to them because I don't. My general answer is, 'Please excuse me, my doctor doesn't allow me to drink,' and I've never found this otherwise than perfectly satisfactory. Any man who would insist after this is one whom you don't want to negotiate with anyway, and if you lose his business from this cause you or your house will be the gainer in the long run. The result of my observation is that the best commercial travelers are those who abstain from drinking altogether, and I know some who do so not from any moral principle at all, but because they find it pays better than the other course."

Apropos of this point the writer recalls a remark that was once made to him by J. H. Green, who obtained considerable notoriety about the middle of this century as the "Reformed Gambler." He had been a gambler on the Mississippi river, where he followed that nefarious calling for several years; then he professed to reform, wrote two or three books to expose the secrets of gambling, and delivered lectures throughout the country, accompanied with tricks in handling cards. His remark on the subject of drinking was as follows:

"When I was a boy I promised my mother that I would never drink; I kept my promise faithfully, and hardly know the taste of liquor. When I became a gambler I found that my temperance was a great help to me; I found, too, that all the best gamblers were careful never to become intoxicated, and a great many of them never touched a drop at all, or certainly not when business was to be done. When a gambler takes to drinking all the others shun him and have nothing whatever to do with him; he soon loses all his money and is cast off by everybody. Wherever you see a successful gambler you see a careful temperance man and generally a teetotaller."

The same practice will be found among other men whose work is the reverse of respectable. Pugilists in training for prize-fighting are shut off from all intoxicants by their trainers and backers, though none of these men are likely to be actuated by any moral scruple whatever. They know the injurious effect of alcohol upon the system, and guard against it accordingly when their interest requires them to do so. One of the most famous, or infamous, pugilists in America is notorious for his debauches at ordinary times, but when he is training for a "match" he is a most exemplary teetotaller. Men in respectable walks of life may well follow the example of gamblers and pugilists in this particular. Certainly this one good lesson may be drawn from card-sharpers and from the professors of the art of manly disfiguration.

In one of his trips to New England the movements of our friend took him near his old home, and he had the permission of Mr. Varney to spend a few days in his native town. He had kept up a regular correspondence with his mother and father and also with Sarah Gove, so that they knew all about his experiences in the great city, and in return kept him informed of the current events in Liberty. All were glad to see him, and not the least among them was his old employer, Mr. Webster, who had constantly rejoiced at the success of the protege whom he had initiated into the ways of the business world.

John Graham continued a rigid teetotaller, and prosperity had followed his reformation, as the reader already knows. His wife had no further anxiety about her husband, as she considered his reform complete, but she was careful to keep him away from the places that were his haunts in the days of his intemperance, as she rightly feared that by some accident he might fall again if temptation were allowed to come in his way.

How did the love affair between Dick and Sarah get along? The vows of eternal fidelity which were exchanged previous to Dick's departure for New York, had been faithfully kept, but somehow the meeting between the lovers was not as ardent as they had expected it to be. Both were disappointed when they met face to face and sat down for a good old fashioned chat. Then, and not till then, did they begin to realize how they had grown away from each other without any intention or thought of having done so, during the years that they had been separated.

Bill Gove had died a year or so before and relieved Sarah from further care on his account. He never reformed in his ways, going on occasional sprees whenever he could obtain the means for getting liquor, but the manner of his death was such that Sarah was spared the recollection that her father had literally died the drunkard's death. While rafting some logs down the river early in the springtime when the stream was high he fell into the water and was carried over the mill dam. He was sober at the time and his death was due to the fall over the dam. Dr. Hills said he might have escaped, as the dam was not a high one, but his system was enfeebled by much indulgence in drink and from a medical point of view his death might be attributed to the effect of stimulant. But this view of the case was carefully kept from Sarah and the matter soon ceased to be talked of.

Sarah had been a faithful student at school and when she went to live with the Prescotts she continued to read and study whenever she had the time to do so. The result was that she fitted herself as a teacher in the common schools of that region, and through the advice of Mr. Prescott made application for a school near the village. She passed the examination triumphantly, and entered upon her duties at the appointed time.

All this she had written to Dick at the time it occurred and we may be sure that he congratulated her warmly on the event. He sent her a liberal supply of books that would be useful to her in her new work; an unabridged dictionary, a set of the best cyclopedia that could be found, and several other volumes that were not at all likely to be picked up in the interior of New England. Aided by these books she used to give daily "talks" to her pupils on topics of interest, and as the news of her new system went around she became famed as the most accomplished teacher for her age and experience that the obscure township had ever known.

Some of the books which Dick sent her were illustrated volumes of the kind known to the book trade as "Juveniles." After exhausting the best parts of these volumes in talks to her pupils she used the books as rewards of merit or rather used the perusal of them. A pupil that had passed through a week without a single demerit mark was allowed to take a book home and read it; this was considered a great treat by the urchins under her charge and the spirit of emulation among them was roused to an unusual degree. When a specially interesting book was received it was read aloud to the school, fifteen or twenty minutes being devoted each day to the reading, and the one who had made the best record for the day had the honor of reading to the rest. The plan was adopted by other teachers and soon became general throughout the township, but Sarah had the distinction of having introduced it.

CHAPTER XXVI.

PERPLEXITIES OF LOVE.

WHEN they were alone again after their interview, the two lovers naturally set about analyzing their feelings and trying to find out why it was they had felt so much less enthusiasm about their meeting than they had anticipated.

This is about the way Dick talked the matter over with himself:

"I never thought of it before, but presume we've grown away from each other by being absorbed in what we are doing. I've been living in the city, and had no wish to return here to stay; my boyhood was so harsh, and had so many unpleasant things connected with it, that I was glad to live somewhere else and forget my old troubles. In the slang phrase, 'that's what's the matter with me.' And, without knowing it, I've been drawn away from Sarah, and she wasn't so much in my life as she used to be.

"Then, too, when I lived here she was in trouble about her drunken father and his occasional attacks of delirium tremens; she had a hard time to live, and even after the Prescotts took her in and cared for her she had a great deal of worry about Bill Gove. How I pitied her and sympathized with her. One of the old poets says, 'pity's akin to love,' and perhaps what I thought was love was really my pity for her. Anyway she's out of her worry about her father now, she's a successful school teacher and gets good wages for her teaching, and there's nothing I can pity her for. I half wish she was in a worry of some kind or other so that there'd be a chance to get up the old feeling. The old proverb that 'Prosperity makes friends and Adversity tries them,' ought to be reversed; here's a case where friends that were made in adversity are tried by prosperity."

These musings took place after Dick had gone to bed, and in the midst of them he fell asleep.

Sarah's thoughts were much of the same character. She went over the many attentions that Dick had shown her in the days that were gone, when troubles rested thick and heavy upon her. She had not the slightest doubt that he would be ready to show as many more if the occasion offered; he had kept her in his thoughts during all the time since he went to the city as was evident by his frequent letters and the books and other things that had aided her so much. Like him, she concluded that a good part of their attachment was due to his sympathy for her, but it did not occur to her to recall, as Dick had done, the poetical quotation from Thomas Southerne, who flourished two hundred years ago, before the township of Liberty had any existence, even upon paper.

There did occur to her the fact that Henry Stone, the young doctor who recently started practice in the village, had called not infrequently at the Prescott's, where she still made her home. His attentions to her were not in any special way noticeable, but it was certainly the fact that his calls were always timed when she was sure to be at home, at least so it happened. She had dreamed one night that she was the wife of a country doctor and had given up school teaching, but this was only an idle dream which she laughed at when she waked. Of course, the circumstance of the doctor having called there so often had made no impression, but somehow she couldn't help thinking of it.

Then she began to ask herself whether she preferred a city life to a home in the country, and reached the conclusion that if she and Dick were to be married some day, she hoped it would be in Liberty, and that he would come there to live. It would be much nicer to lead a quiet life in the country, than to try to exist in the noise and confusion of the city, where, as she had heard, you might live for years and years in a house and not know your next-door neighbor.

This was the conclusion which she had reached when she fell asleep It is said by the mental philosophers, and proved by our own experience oftentimes, that dreams generally follow our waking thoughts; we may be sure that Dick and Sarah did not pass a dreamless night, and the fancies that came to them in slumber did not help the solution of the mystery which troubled them both. They had the usual incoherence of dreams and mixed things up in the way with which most of us are familiar. Sights and experiences of rural retreats, and crowded cities were jumbled together in inextricable confusion and each of the dreamers was wedded a dozen times over to as many individuals whose personality was in no case clearly made out. Dick became a successful merchant with ships sailing to every part of the world and also to the moon and stars, while Sarah was princess and queen with lots of marriageable princes and kings kneeling at her feet and asking the privilege of sharing her dominions and relieving her of the burden of taking care of her subjects.

At their next interview both fought shy of the subject of love and matrimony, and confined the conversation to common topics. But enough was said to show that the state of affairs between them was mutually understood and though their friendship was unchanged the vows of eternal fidelity were a good deal modified. Matters were to be allowed to rest as they were for a while; their correspondence would continue and each was to 'think it over' and be in no hurry about coming to a conclusion.

Dick was suddenly recalled to the city by a letter from Mr. Varney who wrote that there was some important business which required his presence immediately. The call was so sudden that he had no time to make a farewell visit to Sarah but only to drop her a brief note explaining his sudden departure. He was not at all sorry to be relieved from the awkwardness of a personal interview, and on her part Sarah rejoiced that she had escaped a similar trial.

While Sarah's modified views of her feelings towards Dick may be in some measure attributed to her acquaintance with the young doctor, it is possible that Dick's may be accounted for by the fact that he had been introduced into the Varney family where there was a daughter who who by no means out of favor in the young man's eyes. His acquaintance with her was not very extended, but it was sufficient to show that she was an attractive girl, well educated, bright in conversation and comely to a degree that caused her to be sought by all who had admission to the house. She was, or would be in due course of events, an heiress, a circumstance that did not diminish her charms in the eyes of her admirers.

We shall hear more about her at a later date.

Dick returned to New York as fast as the conveyances could carry him and reported promptly to his employer. Mr. Varney immediately gave orders that he could not be seen except on the most urgent business, and sat down for a long talk with the young man.

"You have done so well," said he, "in the various matters with which you have been intrusted that I am about to send you on something more important than anything you have yet undertaken."

Then he paused, and there was, for a minute or two, what an Irish orator once called "a flash of silence" that pervaded the whole room. Dick waited till Mr. Varney was ready to proceed; there was nothing for him to say, and his heart was so far up in his mouth that he would have found great difficulty in speaking if he had tried to say anything.

"I have been suspicious for some time," the merchant continued, "that some of our consignees abroad have not done the best for our interests in disposing of our cargoes and purchasing for the return voyages. After careful consideration of the matter I have determined to send you to investigate the whole business, and shall provide you with full authority to do what you consider best for the interests of the house. Do you think you can undertake it?"

"I will do the best I can, sir," was the reply. "Of course it is all new to me, but I think I have sufficient knowledge of the business not to make any serious mistakes."

"I believe so, too, or you would not have been selected for the mission," Mr. Varney responded. "One reason I have chosen you is because of your strict sobriety, which will be able to withstand any allurements that may be offered in the way of conviviality. You will be entertained in the most hospitable manner wherever you go, as that is the custom in those far off countries, and one part of the hospitality is to load the tables where you dine with the choicest wines and liquors that the market affords. One agent that I sent out a few years ago was unable to withstand the temptation, and came back with broken health and without having accomplished what he was sent to do."

"I won't make any rash promises," Dick answered, "as no man can tell to a certainty what he will do until he has been put to the test, but I don't believe all the temptation in the world could lead me into the habits of intemperance. I've been successful thus far in resisting all inducements, and mean to continue in the same way as long as I live."

"That's the right spirit," said his employer, "and you may consider it settled that you are to go abroad. I believe you have been devoting some of your leisure to the study of French?"

"Yes, sir," said Dick. "I've studied it so that I can read it almost as well as English, can write fairly, but, of course, without the idioms, which can only be acquired by one who studies it at a very early age, and can carry on a conversation of any length, provided the topic is one that I understand. I'm confident I could handle anything relating to the business of the house about as readily as if it were in my native tongue."

"That's what you get by staying away from bar rooms and places of amusement where liquor is sold. You've learned a language that will be of practical use to you where you're going and will help you along in the world. If all young men would spend their lives as you have spent yours the standard of intelligence among them would be much higher than it now is."

Dick blushed and his face glowed with pride and satisfaction at the commendation of his employer. In the language of the novelists and historians, 'it was the happiest moment of his life.'

Then the conversation turned to the subject of his mission, the places he was to visit, the work he had to do, the difficulties with which he would be beset, and the best means of making a successful result. What these things were we will learn in succeeding chapters. He was ordered to be ready to start within a week, and to tell no one in the house where he was going or what he was to do.

"May I tell my friend Thomson that I am going away?" queried the youth. "He's my nearest and best friend among all those with whom I associate daily, and I would like to tell him, provided there is no objection."

"Well," replied the merchant, after a moment's thought, "you may tell him that you are going away for the house, but you must not confide to him anything more until I give you permission."

"Certainly not, sir," replied the young man. "I will say to him that I am about starting on a longer journey than usual and can't tell when I shall be back here again."

"Yes, that will do, and you may keep your room and pay the rent of it while you are gone, or until I stop it. Leave the matter with me and I will attend to it. Come here again to-morrow morning and I'll have more to say to you."

"Yes, sir," Dick replied, and in a moment he was outside the door, so staggered with the prospect before him that he hardly knew which way to go.

TO BE CONTINUED.

TRIFLES LIGHT AS AIR.

Money mends many a break that honest poverty could not heal.—[Quincy Journal.

The man who has no charity in his heart gives no quarter to the hotel waiter.—[Boston Post.

"Heaven lies about us in our infancy," and everybody else lies about us all our lives.—[Washington Hatchet.

It is better to be a doorkeeper in a New England dime museum than to own a farm in the West.—[Providence Telegram.

Spriggins says his wife is so short that she has to stand on a chair to reach the top of her head.[Binghamton Republican.

It takes superhuman strength to carry a small load of whiskey without the world knowing that it is a burden.—[Milwaukee Journal.

PRINCE PUFF-UP.

Prince Puff-Up was a haughty boy,
And once, when it was snowing,
For fear the drifts would be too deep,
He bade the wind stop blowing!

And once, when on the skating pond
The heat was undermining
The smooth hard ice beloved of boys,
He bade the sun stop shining!

He strode about as if he owned
The earth quite to its border—
I've never heard that wind or sun
Obeyed Prince Puff-Up's orders!

Mrs. M. F. Butts.

A Depraved Palate.

A Judge up in Utica who prides himself on his thorough knowledge of the grocery trade, had up before him recently the case of a poor devil charged with stealing a firkin of butter. The Judge was disposed to be lenient with the fellow until the latter declared that he had sampled all the stock in the establishment before stealing this particular firkin.

"H'm; let me see the butter," said his Honor, forthwith applying some to his lips. The whole court room watched the proceedings with intense interest and saw the Judge make a wry face as he fairly shouted:

"Twelve months!"

"Twelve months," said the prisoner's counsel; "what for?"

"Total depravity, sir! I ought to have made it ten years at hard labor."—[American Grocer.

A Sad Leave-Taking.

Despondent Individual (on through express)—"Ah! it is so lovely, so lovely—the beautiful blue sky, the white, fleecy clouds, the glorious sunshine—and to think I am gazing on it all for the last time.

Startled Passenger—"I—I beg pardon, sir, but you don't look like a dying man, nor a person condemned to death for any crime."

Despondent Individual—"It isn't that. You see I am going back to live in a western city where they burn soft coal."—[New York Weekly.

"It's Snowing Blackbirds."

Not long ago we had the first snow of the season, a little flurry of big flakes which melted as fast as they came. Edna was watching them, her little chair pulled up to a window which overlooked a field where wheat had grown in summer. Suddenly she cried:

"O mamma! O auntie! O gramma! Come quick and look! It's snowing blackbirds!"

Sure enough, a great flock of them were settling down in the wheat-field.—[Youth's Companion.

An Open Confession Good for the Soul.

Little Johnny is having a good streak just now, and has been learning a new prayer. The other night he attempted to completely replace old "Now I lay me" with his new "Our Father who art in heaven." He had begun all right and had progressed as far as "on earth as it is in heaven" when the slight nervousness of the occasion drove the rest of the prayer out of his mind. So he groped vainly:

"—in heaven—in heaven. Well, Lord," said Johnny nonchalantly, "I am stuck!"—[Boston Transcript.

The Unfortunate Rich Girl.

It is unfortunate that even at school these daughters of great wealth are not allowed the variety of ordinary living, but are condemned to unvaried luxury. It is only those who pass some part of their lives on the north side of the wall that have real joy in the sunshine.—[Milwaukee Sentinel.

You and I.

Chicago Herald.

The ewe beneath the yew tree lay
As you and I passed on,
The dew due at the close of day
Had come to do the lawn.

I strove to buy by all love's art
A kiss; and by the bye
I won, for when we came to part
I saw your soft eyes "aye."

Our New Testament Serial.

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"COME FORTH."

A STORY OF THE TIME OF CHRIST.

BY ELIZABETH STUART PHELPS,

Author of "The Gates Ajar," "Beyond the Gates," etc,

AND THE REV. HERBERT D. WARD.

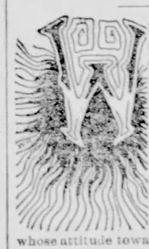
SYNOPSIS OF PREVIOUS CHAPTERS.

The story begins with a description of an early morning scene in the streets of Jerusalem and of services in the synagogue of the Pharisees, at which a young reformer is expected to preach, but does not come. The comfortable house of Lazarus and his sisters, Martha and Mary, in Bethany, a suburb of Jerusalem, is also described, and a contrast drawn between the practical, unimaginative character of Martha and enthusiastic, devotional character of Mary. All three are friends, admirers and adherents of the ardent young preacher.

Ariella, the bedridden daughter of Malachi and of Hagnar, is left almost alone in their house for the day, while they go up to Jerusalem. Baruch, the blind man, is brought by his mother to beguile Ariella's loneliness; a tender sentiment is growing between these two afflicted people. Baruch suggests that Ariella might be cured by the miraculous power of the new rabbi. She hopes for this, and Baruch promises her to beg him to come to the house of Malachi to heal her. But Malachi the Pharisee, Ariella's father, came home the next day in a towering rage over the young rabbi's discourse in the synagogue, in which the hypocrisy of the Pharisees were denounced; and Malachi commands his wife and daughter to have nothing whatever to do with Jesus of Nazareth, nor to attend his discourses. Blind Baruch comes to tell Ariella, two days later, that Jesus has consented to come to heal her; but she tells him, sobbing, that his errand has been in vain, because of her father's anger toward Jesus. Baruch determines to succeed, in spite of this obstacle. His mother, Rachel, invites Ariella to visit her and spend the night. Her parents assent, and the lame girl is carried on a litter to her friend's home. That evening Jesus comes and heals her. Ariella is well-nigh mad with joy, and walks to her home in the morning. Her father is angry over the matter, and accuses Ariella of having deceived him, alleging that she had not been sick. At this the neighbors who had gathered to witness the miracle that had been performed, remonstrate with Malachi, while his wife, reproaches Malachi for his heartlessness.

Lazarus, who is a contractor and builder, goes to the palace of Annas, the ex-high priest, to make some repairs. There he sees Zahara, the beautiful daughter of Annas, and sets his heart in a tumult. Several times during the progress of the work he meets her for a moment, and Lazarus falls madly in love with her. Annas comes to inspect the work, and learns that Lazarus is a believer in the new rabbi, the Nazarene, Jesus, the carpenter's son. Zahara joins her father, and hears the conversation. Annas is displeased, and leaves the builder coldly. Zahara accompanying her father. Lazarus did not see Zahara again until just as he was leaving the palace the evening of the day on which his work was completed. He avows his love for her, and receives a shy admission from her that he is not indifferent to her return. Annas goes with his daughter to spend the hot months at his villa at Capernaum, on the shores of the sea of Galilee. Lazarus is summoned thither to build an addition to the villa. One evening at sunset, Zahara, with her maidens, goes sailing on the lake. A sudden tempest comes down upon the sea. Lazarus notes that her boat is driving across the lake toward the east, but darkness falls, and he can not see it longer. He dashes wildly along the shore, far beyond the city, when a sudden calm comes down upon the sea, and in a gleam of unearthly light he sees Jesus come walking upon the water, bearing the fainting and unconscious form of Zahara; He places her on the shore, at Lazarus's side, and disappears.

CHAPTER XIII.



WHEN Lazarus came forth from Gethsemane, the garden of Amos, his heart was more and tender with remorse and with love. His feelings toward the Nazarene rose into ardent longing, and he made all haste at the first possible moment to meet the generous and forgiving friend whose attitude toward himself was of such nobility and fidelity. The opportunity did not arrive until the evening of the second day thereafter, when the hour of evening prayer found Lazarus actively searching for Jesus in his usual haunts at Jerusalem. The search was unsuccessful. In the course of it Lazarus happened to come upon John, the fisherman, who informed him quietly, somewhat coldly, Lazarus thought, that his Master journeyed to Tiberias, whither he himself should follow with other disciples of the rabbi on the succeeding day. It did indeed occur to Lazarus that he might go to Tiberias himself; but at that precise time came the order from the High Priest to improve the villa at Capernaum. Lazarus responded without a moment's hesitation.

Thus again had fate, or that movement of our own natures to which we are apt to give the comfortable name of fate, interposed between the young man and the teacher whom he idealized and neglected, revered and grieved. Now in this tremendous moment in night, and storm, and wreck, and in the face of death, the two had met and yet had not met. Lazarus had not even seen the countenance of his friend; it was so dark, and his own eyes so dimmed by those tears that come of seaward gazing and straining. He had only felt that pregnant and wondrous presence as one might feel the passing of an angel in the darkness. Jesus himself had not spoken an audible word. Lazarus fancied that his breath came quickly, either in agitation or from exhaustion; but he was so used to associating the Nazarene with the signs of power, achievement, and self-possession that it was difficult for him to attribute these indications of effort and pathetic sensitiveness to that mysterious personality.

At any rate, whether aggrieved or rebuking, whether in tenderness or in displeasure, the Nazarene had gone.

The first movement of Lazarus, it must be admitted, was toward Zahara. To discover whether she still lived—this instinct dominated everything. He caught her delicate, wet hand in his; it dropped heavily at her side. He bent above her, reverently daring to put his ear upon her sacred breast; her heart beat—weakly, but steadily enough, like the heart of a strong girl whom shock and shipwreck do not easily kill.

"She lives!" murmured Lazarus. "She is saved. Zahara lives!"

Then, to his credit let us record it of him, before Lazarus made another effort in behalf of Zahara he did make one to recall his friend.

"Master!" cried Lazarus, "Lord, return to me! Return! Stay with me but a moment, Rabboni, that I may worship thee, thou Hope of Israel!"

But the solemn movement of the oleanders against the dying wind was the only answer which the young man received. Jesus did not return.

The storm was now abated, as suddenly as it had arisen. The wind had sunk like a whipped hound. The waves were restless still; but that pathway of light upon which the mystical vision of the Nazarene had trodden widened slowly, broadened solemnly, until it lay upon the lake like holy oil, and quelled it. Whatever might be the fate of Zahara's companions in the little pleasure boat, Lazarus did not ask; it must be owned that he had forgotten to care. Zahara breathed. Zahara lay at his feet, a lovely, sobbing, living woman coming to her senses over all sorts of pretty frights and vagus of distress that drove every other consciousness from his nature. It was night. It was solitude. It was Zahara. No hand could snatch her from him now. Neither gods nor men could rob him of that one hour. It was his own.

"Lazarus," moaned Zahara, "am I drowned? Are we dead together, thou and I?"

"By the shade of Abraham! thou livest and we are together," cried Lazarus, "and which is the greater miracle, I cannot tell thee, for I know not. * * * Tell me, Zahara, art thou hurt? Dost thou suffer pain? How can I comfort thee?"

"I am very wet," said Zahara, "and it was terrible, and I suffer such fright as might kill a woman; but I will be stronger than my fright. I shall arise and get me to my father."

She struggled to her feet and stood before the young man for an instant, full in the starlight. Her superb form shone through her wet drapery, which clung to her from neck to ankles. Lazarus looked up at her from the sands where he knelt at her feet. His brain whirled. Beautiful creature! * * * He held up his arms to her. Zahara tottered.

"Help me, Lazarus," she said faintly, "I can not walk alone. Help me homeward, for I would fain—"

What would Zahara fain have done? She never told him. Lazarus never asked. Still kneeling, he lifted his appealing arms; and Zahara, like a princess, stooped to them.

He caught her and drew her gently down. She did not struggle with him. She came right royally—a strong surrender, womanly and wise. It was as if Zahara scorned to be coy and to play with a love which was great enough to conquer her.

"Lazarus!" she murmured, "I am alive and I love thee!"

"And we are alone, and I love thee! Come to me, Zahara, for I would shelter thee."

Zahara came. He gathered her to his arms, to his shoulder, to his breast, slowly, delicately, afraid, not of men or of angels, but of his own passion and of the maiden's holy nature. This queenly girl crept to him as gently as the meekest woman of them all. Dark as it was, he closed his eyes instinctively, that he might for that supreme moment see nothing, not even the dim outline of her yielding form and drooping face—that he might only feel the timid motion of her round arm as it stole around his neck, the approach of her velvet cheek to his own, her fragrant breath upon his beard, the delicate pressure of her pure heart—the ecstacy of her surrendered lips. Presently he would look at her. Once more in time was enough; how could man bear so manifold a joy? To touch her that was Eden. That first embrace he chose in sacred darkness.

* * * * "Now would I behold thee, now would I look upon thy face. I would gaze into thine eyes, for they are mine. I would feed my sight upon thy lips, for I have kissed them with the kisses of my mouth, and made them mine, and mine I must forever keep."

He held the maiden away from his heart and snatched her back again; he clasped her till she was fain to cry out for sweet pain, and then to nestle to him as if she would be clasped and hurt again.

"A blight upon the night, that it is too dark to see the glory of thy face, my own."

"Were it not dark, then were not we together, oh, my lover. Curse not the gloom that gives thee to mine arms. Why, Lazarus, I am happy to be here! Dear, my lord, I love thee."

"I bless the night, I bless the storm, I bless the wreck, I bless the dark—and thee, I bless, Zahara. I clasp thee. I kiss thee—I smite and thee—and I worship thee."

"Lazarus!"

"Zahara!"

"I must depart. I must return. I must get me to my father—"

"Zahara, thou must stay, thou must remain, thou must rest upon my heart."

"How long, my lord?"

"Till I release thee."

"That must be immediately, sweet sir."

"That shall be when I elect, fair lady."

"Thou art a fiend. Thou playest tyrant with a maiden."

"If thou art not happy of such tyranny—thou art as free as the bird that flieth above the tree-top." * * *

"What wouldst thou, Lazarus?"

Thou answer me not. Wouldst thou be free of me? Rebellest thou against thy Herod? Then leave me. Go, Zahara. By the oath of Isaac, who did honor and love Rebecca, I stay thee not, if thou misliket thy tyrant. Would'st depart, Zahara? Would'st thou go from me?"

"Nay, then, Lazarus. For I cannot."

"I constrain thee not. See! My arms release thee. Why dost thou not escape them?"

"Dear, my lord. I have said it. I go not, because I cannot. A power greater than the force of a man's arm constraineth me. Nay, I escape not."

"Name the name of this power, Zahara."

"Behold, I know not, Lazarus. Perhaps men call it love."

"Zahara! Princess! Bright One! Shining! Thou dearest! Thou divinest! I clasp thee. I control thee. Thou nestlest to my heart like a little slave."

"Behold me! I am the slave of my love, and thou art its lord, and mine. Lazarus! ....Be unto me as thou wilt, and what thou wilest, that I am to thee.... I love thee!"

With kisses that blotted out life and death, and heaven and earth, and law and consciousness, he sealed those womanly words upon her warm, uplifted lips. When from the kindness of ecstacy his breath returned to him, and the voice thereof, he sought to try the maiden, what should be the meaning of her soul to him.

"Zahara, thou knowest me what I am—Lazarus the builder, an honorable man; but thou art the daughter of the High Priest. Thine am I utterly and always. What art thou to me and to the desire of my heart, for it is mighty? Man and woman born of one rank and unhindered of their will—these wed;—but that thou wouldst not. Thou couldst not—stoop to —me."

"I have said it," whispered Zahara timidly.

"What hast thou said? The ears of my soul are deaf. I am stunned with joy. Lovest thou me, Zahara * * * enough for this?"

"My lord, behold thine handmaid. Be it unto me as thou electest."

So said Zahara; not inaudibly; but in a strong, sweet voice. She lifted her face from the breast of her lover, and threw her fine head back, that she might regard him, or try to regard him through the dark. For a moment silence, sweeter than speech, succeeded to her incredible words. Delirious with delight, Lazarus leaned towards her. She drew away from him a little in a kind of sudden terror, whether of him or herself or of the thing which she had said. Then, slowly, she thrust back her head, till it sank low and lower still upon the palm of his outstretched hand. Thus held up, with her trembling face uplifted humbly; and thus he, bending over, kissed her on the mouth, eyes, cheeks, throat, arms, and throbbing heart.

"Neither Annas nor any man—shall say me nay"—vowed Lazarus, "but I will have thee to wife."

A few men and women know for one hour in their lives, and only one—and most of us at no time—moments such as came that night to this youth and maiden. Past by accident that perilous solitude which they wrested from fate as his treasure. In age and state of society where honorable man and woman may not converse without a witness, their rarity and value of that meeting between Lazarus and Zahara can hardly be appreciated.

Who can blame them that they forgot all else but each other—saving the reverence of their great love? The storm, the shipwreck, the rescue, the rescuer, the poor serfs, floated to who knows what fate? the old man agonized on the distant shore—these were as if they were not to the lovers. Was not Zahara drenched through all her pretty, flimsy clothes? She thought not, knew not, cared not. Was she not chilled to the heart, and shivering with cold?

"Nay, nay love, thou warmest me. Thine arms are riches and cover me. Thy lips are flames of fire, and I do shelter me thereat. Thou commandest, and I am at ease. Thou breathest upon me and I am strong."

"Thou lovest me, and I am deified!" cried Lazarus.

Ah then, arms meet and lips linger, and an eastern house of those times; the old man ordered candles and lamps scattered everywhere; he seemed to believe that the vows were breathed and longing whispered, and hope, and desire, and reverence, and rapture sway and control the loving, to whom this snatch of joy may be the first, the last, the only concession that they can wrest from fate. How long they stayed in that desolate, storm-sw

boat might perceive the light—the house standing so high and being visible from the lake—and cheated himself with this pitiful expedient, while his messengers were running to and fro between the lake and the villa with commands and reports. At the moment when Zahara arrived, the news had preceded her that the pleasure boat had been found capsized, with one of its occupants clinging thereto. This was Rebecca, the hand-maid, who accidentally had been caught in one of the ropes of the boat, and so had been rescued and brought ashore. Of her mistress, who was pitching violently in the raging sea, nothing could be found. The carsmen were gone. The two slaves whom the High Priest had ordered off from shore in a rescuing boat had been swamped and drowned; but this incident scarcely excited any remark. Human life, at best, was cheap in those days; and slave-life a cipher in the sum.

Annas stood in his brightly-lighted portico, a trembling, weakened old man, as pale as any of his drowned slaves at that moment—tossing in the lake. The messengers from the beach had torches, and their wild flare shot over the high Priest's face and figure. He presented a piteous picture. When some one from the rear of the group pushed forward the drenched and weeping Rebecca, the excitement of the wretched father culminated in an outcry which shook the souls of those who heard it:

"You and not she! Your miserable life—of less value than the least tassel that tossed upon the silken fringes of her garments! How dare you show your paltry face above the waters that have overwhelmed hers? The least you could have done were to have gone to your doom beside her. It was the last act of service you could render to your mistress. Shame upon you, that you did it not! A curse upon the miserable crew of you that had the impertinence to live when death selected Zahara!"

"Father," said a rich, deep voice from the shadow of the garden, "do not scold poor little Rebecca. It was no fault of hers; and I am quite safe."

Zahara stepped forward in her stately way; she stood as calmly as a Greek statue in a heathen temple, and with a very similar grace. In the outcry and confusion that followed her sudden appearance, Zahara maintained a supreme quiet which acted powerfully upon the excited scene. In point of fact, she was elevated above it by excitement beside which this looked small to her. The experience of the last hour seemed to the girl to belittle all others. What was this fret and chatter about human life compared to the existence of such a love as she and he who loved her knew?

The pure face of Zahara, pale with emotion, shone brilliantly; her dripping white robes caught the glare of the torches and flung it back. She seemed to scintillate, as she stood there, like a great gem, many-faced and nobly set. A weaker woman, or a less royally builded one, would have sunk with exhaustion by this time, fainted in her father's arms or sobbed—like Rebecca, the slave.

Zahara had never felt so strong in her life. The kisses of her lover burned yet upon her rich lips. Her chilled blood tingled with his last caress. His firm, imperious hand had but just now released her own, as he helped her forward, boldly into the group, and stood reverently but insistently beside her, that he might lead her to her father's breast. His presence was fire, light, warmth, food, strength, life. Zaharah felt lifted above everything. She feared no one. The High Priest was no more formidable than any common father. She ran into his arms like any plebian daughter, and fondled him girlishly, and Annas, like any unimportant parent, broke down and wept, and clasped the girl and blessed her, and blessed the God of his priesthood, and of his people for her dear life.

"And behold," cried Zahara, "him who did save the life of thy daughter, O my father!"

Lazarus uttered an involuntary protest. This movement of Zahara's was totally unexpected to him. Who could count upon Zahara? What was Lazarus to her? Words sprang to his lips, he knew not what; honest, manly, mad denial. But Zahara turned her high head and gave him one look. That look sealed his lips. It said more than man could battle against; or more than he could fight against at that exhausted moment. To the two, the young man seemed more exhausted than the woman.

"The lady doth overestimate my slight assistance," murmured Lazarus, bowing before the High Priest, "but I was so fortunate as to be able to help her across a difficult portion of the shore, which I did to the best of my poor ability."

At this instant something tingled at the young man's feet. Stupidly he stood staring down. A brilliant bauble shone on the wet pavement; life-coin and gut-crushed it as he moved to examine the thing.

"Pray, sir," said Zahara imperiously, "be so courteous as to pick up for me the bracelet which has fallen from my arm."

As Lazarus stooped to do this the lady bent a little above him or toward him that she might receive the trinket—a glittering band of engraved and jacinth—from his hand. In doing so she contrived to breathe a few words, inaudible to any ear but that of the maddest lover or the wildest jealousy, but perfectly distinct to the bewildered and perplexed young man.

"Contradict me not. Who saveth the daughter, serveth the father. For love's sake, leave the matter to me."

"Father," added Zahara, "I have been thanking the young man for my own part, for my debt to him is mighty. See thou to it, for thine own part now, that his high deed is well regarded; for I am wet and weary, and would get me among my maidens and seek rest. Thy daughter would have been tossing yonder in the lake, with thy doomed slaves, O my father, but for his valor and his strength who has returned me to thine arms. I know not how he did the deed," added Zahara with an apparent simplicity which was none the less effective because it happened to be the truest thing she said. "I cannot tell thee how I am saved; but saved I am, and by his hand whom I do honor for the doing of it. I am restored to thee. If he wants for me," concluded Zahara prettily, "he is a mighty man. At all events I do know him for a brave one, and an honorable, and I do bless him in thy hearing and that of all thy household, and now, farewell, good sir. A woman's gratitude go with you! My father, sir, will entertain you for my sake and for that of the service you have done to the house of the High Priest in the salvation of my poor life."

With these words Zahara departed very gracefully and sweetly, with her maidens; leaving the astounded Lazarus to his conscience and his perplexity—and the High Priest.

Annas advanced to him with outstretched arms. His venerable countenance stirred with powerful emotions; these contradicted each other and made a battle-ground of his eyes and lips. The two men regarded each other with the mingled impressions usual to their meetings. Each attracted to each, midway of his attraction met repulsion; or perhaps it were truer to call it distrust or recoil. Annas could not explain why he held such reserved opinions of the young man to whom he felt consciously drawn. But Lazarus knew quite well why he shrank from the High Priest, the powerful enemy of the religious movement dear to so many of the middle and lower classes of Jewish society; and yet, why he could have loved Annas, the father of Zahara. On that night the two came together swiftly and heartily. The tide of the occasion swept distrust away. Father-love and lover's love united them instinctively. The High Priest overwhelmed the young man with expressions of gratitude for the rescue of his daughter.

"Nay, but I deserve not such tribute of the High Priest," protested Lazarus in embarrassment. "What I have done was but a trifle. You do overrate my share in the salvation of the lady."

"You speak courteously, sir," replied the High Priest, waiving the protest away with a magnificent hand, "but the word of my daughter suffices. I recognize in you the savior of her life, and I pray you to allow me to regard you in accordance with the facts."

Lazarus was silent from sheer perplexity. How should he contradict the testimony of Zahara—and to her father? What should he, what could he do?

"By your leave," he answered with some awkwardness, "I will now return to my khan. I had forgotten the circumstances—but verily, I believe I am wet also, as to my garments, I should seek shelter and rest."

"And by your leave," returned the High Priest with great courtliness of manners, "you will seek no shelter while you remain at Capernaum, save the roof of the High Priest, father to Zahara, whose life you have preserved."

TO BE CONTINUED.

Their Only Mission.

How many men each day you'll see—
Or each there is no dearth—
Whose only mission seems to be
To take up room on earth.

—[Washington Post.

AS A NERVE TONIC

Use Horsford's Acid Phosphate.

Dr. S. L. WILLIAMS, Clarence, Iowa, says: "I have used it to grand effect in a case of neuralgic fever, and in uterine difficulties. Also in cases were a general tonic was needed. For a nerve tonic I think it is the best I have ever used, and can recommend it most confidently."

HOW WOMEN SAY GOOD-BYE.

A Short Character Sketch by Kate Upson Clark.

[Written for THE BLADE. Copyrighted, 1890.]

"REALLY, I must go," remarks Mrs. Smith to her friend, Mrs. Brown, upon whom she is calling; "I am staying altogether too long."

"Oh, don't hurry," rejoins her hospitable hostess.

"Thank you, but I must go. There! I was almost departing without telling you——"

Then follows a long story about how Brother John's chickens have been scratching in that cross Mrs. Twosticks' garden, and how she has threatened to sue Brother John for damages, and, oh! wasn't it ridiculous!—until ten minutes have passed, and still Mrs. Smith has not gone.

Presently she rises again. "How I am staying!" she exclaims.

At this moment enters Mrs. Robinson. Mrs. Smith is fond of Mrs. Robinson, and must remain for just a moment more.

Her "moment" consists of ten more minutes. Then she starts again, pausing in the hall for five additional minutes, and on the door step for five more. Mrs. Brown and Mrs. Robinson have both of them accompanied her to the door, and all three ladies affectionately exchange remarks until Mrs. Smith is fairly out of hearing.

They do not like to see other ladies do this, but somehow there is almost always a reason why they should do it themselves. Many a really well-bred and estimable lady, carried away by the trifling enthusiasm of the moment, errs in this respect.

Mr. Howells refers to the "usual rustic difficulty in getting away," but this rusticity, if such it be, is not confined to the rural districts; it occurs everywhere, and is a constant source of ridicule among men when they discuss—as, alas! they are fain to do—the foibles of their sisters and wives.

It is really a mark of at least lamentable forgetfulness of good manners, if not a token of positive ill breeding, to dawdle and delay in taking one's departure, and this rule, like nearly all of the rules of good society, is founded upon reason. The well balanced and well bred woman does not forget what she was going to say; she restrains her spirits somewhat—in fact, she is likely to be almost too well restrained. It is better to err in this direction, however, than in the other. The fashion of "gushing," to use a vulgar but expressive term, is happily past. It is now the period of the icy and the "monumental." "Repose of manner" has "come in" again. Can we not strike a happy medium between too great indifference and the other extreme?

"HOW I AM STAYING!" SHE EXCLAIMS.

Do not kiss your friend good-by unless you are very intimate with her. The kiss is too sweet and sacred a token to be bandied lightly about among mere acquaintances. A cordial handshake is enough to indicate your genuine regard. Do not say that you are going until you have made up your mind firmly, irrevocably to go—as though you were making it up to something far more important. Having proposed and having risen to go, let nothing short of an earthquake detain you. If your hostess insists upon going to the door with you—a hospitable attention which is usually unnecessary, and which, under some circumstances, is inadmissible—say all that you have to say before the outside door opens. Then firmly close your lips and walk to your carriage, or your car, as the case may be.

In a well known club for women, one bright member recently proposed that a reform among the entire sisterhood should be inaugurated.

"Let us begin," she said, cleverly, "by paying attention to what our children say to us, and to trying to answer them accurately; by noticing just what is remarked to us in general society, and by replying to such remarks to the very best of our ability. Women are so apt to be only half attentive to what they consider trifles."

It is indeed worth while to consider that, often, "trifles discover character more than actions of importance." George Eliot somewhere tells us: "It is in those acts called trivialites that the seeds of joy are forever wasted."

It is sometimes very funny to hear the "linked sweetness, long drawn out," of the good-bys of women; but, until they learn to reform in trifles like these, it will be impossible to convince skeptics in the matter that women are anything but the inconsequent, ill balanced, silly creatures which, ever since literature began, they have been set down to be.

The dignity of the whole world of women demands a reform.

Kate Upson Clark

The Small Boy's Scheme.

"Gimme a nickel's worth of buckshot," said a St. Paul gamin wearing somewhat disordered raiment. His head just topped the counter in a bazaar devoted to sporting goods.

"I suppose he will load them into a rusty pistol and accidently shoot some one of his intimate friends," suggested a bystander.

"Oh, no," replied the proprietor of the gun store; "he has no firearms. He is going in to beat the nickel-in-the-slot scheme, and I suppose I am particeps criminis."

"How?"

"Why, he will put them on the street car track; the car will convert them into the exact size of nickels and pennies, and, of course, you can anticipate the financial panic liable to ensue in St. Paul shortly, with a gum machine at almost every corner."—[St. Paul Pioneer Press.

Their Consciences Rebelled.

First Burglar (in dining room)—Faith, Dennis, here's some fine cold mate. Oime hungry, too, after goin' t'rough de house.

Second Burglar (catching sight of the clock)—Sure and we can't ate it, Bill. It's Friday mornin' begobs!

First Burglar—Wall, that's too bloimed bad! Why didn't we hurry up a bit!—Life.

Not Twins.

MRS. M. met frequently two charming little girls going to school, who looked each very much like the other.

One morning she asked one of them, "Are you twins, my dear?"

With an indignant shake of her curls, she answered:

"Nomel We'se bofe girls."

—[Texas Siftings.

What Will He Dioux?

Chicago Mail.

The lands of the Sioux
Are open, 'tis trioux,
To the hardy white settlers who like all things
nioux;
But what will he dioux
When the frolicsome Sioux
Sweeps down on him, scalps him and cuts him
in tioux?

And He Never Will, Either.

Dick was riding in the cars with his big brother. "Tickets!" said the conductor, and held out his hand. When the man had passed, Dick looked up to his brother in astonishment, and said:

"Why, Sandy, he didn't say 'Please!'"

Pull Down the Blind.

May Kissam—"You ought to be ashamed of yourself!"

Jack Bussey—"I—I am; what can I do to atone for my rudeness?"

May Kissam—"You might at least draw the curtains."—[San Francisco Post.

For Throat Diseases, Coughs, Colds, etc., effectual relief is found in the use of "*Brown's Bronchial Troches.*" Price 25 cts. *Sold only in boxes.*

PINAFORE PRATTLE.

Visitor—Do you like recitations, little boy?

Little Boy—No'm, but I like recessitations.—[Washington Star.

"Mamma," said a little girl, gazing for the first time on a dude in motion, "how bow-legged that man's arms are!"—[Puck.

Old Gentleman (to little girl)—Sissy, what makes your eyes so bright?

Sissy (after a little thought)—I guess it's 'cause they're kinder new.

St. Clair—I wish I was deaf and you were dumb!

Mother—Why, St. Clair, what a terrible wish!

St. Clair—Then you couldn't scold and I couldn't hear you.—[Munsey's Weekly.

"Mamma, am I a pony?" asked little Mabel Gazzom, anxiously.

"Why, what do you mean, Mabel?"

"Papa said just now I was a little hoarse."—[Yenowine's News.

Little Walter—Let me hear you crow, won't you?

Miss Oldun—Why, child, what do you mean?

Little Walter—Why, papa said you were no chicken, so you must be a rooster.—[Munsey's Weekly.

Teacher (to dull boy of the class)—Which New England state has two capitals?

Boy—New Hampshire.

Teacher—Indeed! Name them.

Boy—Capital N and capital H.—[Harper's Bazar.

Bobby—I want some more candy.

Mother—I can't give you any more candy. When anybody has too much candy a big black bear comes and eats him.

Bobby—Then give me the paper, quick, so the big black bear won't eat you up.—[Texas Siftings.

Bobby (while the minister is waiting for Bobby's father to come down)—I knowth about diamonds.

Minister (patronizingly)—Indeed! Tell me something about them.

Bobby (rapidly)—Athes, deuthes, pairth and jackpots.—[Jewelers' Weekly.

Mr. Snippy (to Bobby's big sister)—It is now raining hard. I think I'll stay till it stops.

Bobby—Now, pa, you were wrong.

Pa—Wrong? What do you mean?

Bobby—You said Mr. Snappy didn't know enough to come in out of the rain, and he does.—[Munsey's Weekly.

Mother—Willie, where are the dried pears that were in the pantry?

Willie—All gone, mamma.

Mother—I know it was you, you naughty child. Did you eat them?

Willie—(boldly)—How could I, when it says on the box "Evaporated Fruit?" Guess they just 'vaporated 'fore I could get 'em.—[Pittsburg Bulletin.

Visitor—Tommy, I wish to ask you a few questions in grammer.

Tommy—Yes, sir.

Visitor—If I give you the sentence, "The pupil loves his teacher," what is that?

Tommy—Sarcasm.—[Texas Siftings.

Little Girl—"I want another slate just like my last one. It was made by Pat May. He's only sixteen years old, too. He made my slate last year."

Dealer—"I never heard of any such manufacturer. Won't one of this sort do?"

"Why, yes, that's the very kind. See? Here's his name. 'Pat. May 16, 1889.'"—[New York Weekly.

A shrewdly-observant little New York girl who has noted the relations between servant girls and bluecoats, found an enormous tom-cat helping the family kitten to eat up its meal.

"Where on earth did that cat come from?" the child's mother asked.

"Dunno," said the child; "guess it must be pussy's policeman."—[Texas Siftings.

Johnny—Can't I have another penny?

Mother—You extravagant boy! What did you do with the one I just gave you?

Johnny—I gave it to a poor old woman with only one eye.

Mother—That was a good boy. Here, you can have another penny.

Johnny (next day)—Can I have a penny to give to that poor old woman to-day?

Mother—Yes, you can have one. What do you want to give it to her for?

Johnny—For a stick of candy."—[Munsey's Weekly.

GOT RID OF A BOGUS JEWEL.

A Smart Woman's Scheme for Beating a Pawnbroker—Jewels Made to Pawn.

"I feel awfully ashamed of it now," said a demure little brown-eyed woman to a reporter, yesterday, "because the pawnman was real good to me. It was this way: My friend Ada showed me a pendant, a circle of beautiful small white diamonds about a ruby that glowed like a flaming red heart; it had fire enough to melt a rock. Ada said it was a shame that the ruby was not genuine, because it made the pendant of no value to her.

"'I don't care,' said I; 'it looks so much like a real stone that I do not believe any one could tell it was bogus. Why, see, there is even a little flaw in it, just as you often find in rubies.' But Ada said as long as it was not genuine the pendant was of no value to her, unless she had the diamonds set over.

"'Why not pawn it?' said I.

"'I couldn't,' said she. 'I'd be frightened to death. Besides, how do you do it?'

"'Oh, just go in and ask him how much he'll give on it,' said I, though I had never been near a pawnshop. I was in too deep to expose my ignorance now.

"'Would you dare do it?' said she.

"'Certainly!' I replied bravely.

"'Will you do it for me, dear?'

"Now, that took my breath away. To put my friend up to mischief was one thing, but to be up to it myself was another. However, I could not admit I was afraid now.

"'Ye-es,' I said, half-heartedly.

"She made me start at once. We went down town, and while she waited in a store I climbed the stairs to the office of a swell broker where my heart beating until I was nearly suffocated. I sat down in the private office, and with a face as long as the statue of misery, I handed out that pendant.

"How much?" said the man.

"'I don't know,' I replied. He disappeared, and came back and said, '$150.'

"Then I knew he thought the ruby real, as I had expected him to do, and the pendant worth about $600, but the sum offered was about double the real value of the pendant; so I looked sorrowfully at the gem for a moment, and then said:

"'Can you do no better for me?'

"'Nope,' said he. One more long look at that memento of better days, and then I said, in a voice suffused with tears:

"'I'll take it.'

"The broker had been watching me closely, and I think he was moved by my apparent distress, which my fright helped me to assume, for when he brought me the ticket and money he said in the gentlest way:

"'My dear lady, if you wish to redeem this at any time send us word and we'll send it to you and spare you the pain of coming here.' His was so kind that I'm sorry I cheated him, even if he did want a $600 pendant for $150."

The reporter related this story to a reputable Malden lane jewelry manufacturer. He said that the secret of the girl's success lay partly in the fact that the bogus jewel had a flaw in it and that it was set with superior, if small, stones, but chiefly in the bearing of the girl. She showed with an eye that she was not accustomed to the air of a pawn shop, and so he was more easily deceived. It is a regular though small branch of the jewelry business to make jewels like this pendant, which are worked off on pawnbrokers through just such means as were employed in this case.—[N. Y. Sun.

Down in Kentucky.

Texas Siftings.

Minnie—Oh, Charley, wouldn't it be delightfully wicked to run away and get married?

Charley (who was up to snuff)—Splendid! We'll do it. Did the old folks fix any time?

True Everywhere.

Indeed 'tis unkind,
When he's pulled down his blind,
To say that the gambler has left us.
He is out on a spree,
His band is kept dark;
Of his presence he has not bereft us.

—[Chicago Inter-Ocean.

THE GOOD OFFICE OF

St. Jacobs Oil

Is well illustrated in the cure of neuralgia, the chief symptom of which is, an intermittent pain which follows the course of the nerve affected. St. Jacobs Oil by gentle rubbing and applied frequently, will cure

NEURALGIA.

109 Sackett St., Brooklyn, N. Y., Jan. 31, 1889.
I was taken with neuralgia in side and suffered 6 months. I was given up by doctors, but was cured by St. Jacobs Oil.
MICHAEL McGINN.

AT DRUGGISTS AND DEALERS.
THE CHARLES A. VOGELER CO., Baltimore, Md.

The Camp Fire.

[Contributions from the old soldiers are earnestly solicited by the editor of the CAMP FIRE. No matter if you cannot write a lengthy history of your lives, for we much prefer short, lively sketches, personal and historical. All communications will be attended to, and no contributor will be overlooked. We do not want anything from the records, as we are supplied with a full set.]

A TEETOTALLER,

And For That Reason Was Made Brigadier General for Fifteen Hours.

AFTER the memorable retreat from Cumberland Gap to the Ohio river, under Gen. Geo. W. Morgan, our brigade, commanded by General Spears, crossed the river and went into camp on a beautiful green, back of Scioto ville. The general had his quarters at a house in town. We lay there over Sunday, and there was an order issued that no liquor should be sold to soldiers, and that the men should stay out of the town, except those who had business there. Likewise there was a patrol guard detailed during the day with orders to go through the town and send every soldier to camp. About 4 o'clock in the afternoon, when everything was in uproar and confusion in camp and in town, with men boisterously drunk everywhere, our major went to Gen. Spears's quarters on some business. The general was swearing that the whole brigade had become unmanageable through drink, and that they disregarded his commands because they knew he was a drinking man himself. Then, as the thought occurred to him, he turned to the major and asked him if he knew of a commissioned officer in the whole brigade who would not touch liquor under any circumstances. The major told him he knew of one captain of that kind, and named myself as the man. "All right," said Gen. Spears, "I know him," and turning to his adjutant he told him to write an order, giving me the supreme command of the brigade, with the request that I put a stop to the drunken uproar if possible. I was just wondering where it all would end, when the major came up and asked me how I would like to undertake to quiet all that uproar. I answered that I thought it would be about as hopeless a task as trying to make the Ohio river turn in its course. "Well," he said, "you will have to try it," and gave me the order. It is needless to say I was surprised. But after trying to excuse myself, and being informed that there were no "ifs" or "ands" in the order, I resolved to go at it in good earnest, and do my best. I had it made known throughout the brigade that I was in command, sent an order to the lieutenant in command of the patrol guard to report to me with all men immediately, which he did. I discharged them, made a new detail, and put them under command of one of my lieutenants whom I knew I could trust, and told him to order every soldier and officer found in the town to camp, and see that they came, and to give the saloon-keepers to understand that if any more liquor was sold to the soldiers, that I would handle them without gloves. Then I took twelve men with me and started through the brigade, pouring liquor out of canteens. We poured out gallons of the stuff. Colonels Hauck and Shelly came to me and requested the privilege of policeing their own camps. I told them to go ahead if they could quiet their men and keep them so, but if not, I would try my hand. In less than two hours after I was put in command, every thing in camp and town was as quiet and orderly as a Sabbath evening could be expected to be in such a place.—C. L. BARTON, Capt. Co. A, 1st Tenn. Cav.

A SHERMAN BUMMER

Slides a Chip Into the Circle—A Sweet Experience.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—We were passing by a plantation one day while on the march in 1864, and as it was about noon some of us were on the lookout for something to eat. We struck out for the smoke-house, where we found several barrels filled with molasses. We rolled them outside and knocked in the heads with our guns. Then the fun began. All wanted to get a supply of the thick, black molasses at the same time. I was in a hurry, and as the treacle was so thick I could not pour it into my canteen, I shook out the crumbs from my haversack, filled it with the syrup, and my bunkmate strapped it on my back with my knapsack. Rain began falling in the afternoon, so I put my rubber blanket over my head. The roads were very muddy and we were tired marching, and coming to a dry place we halted. It was about 8 o'clock p. m., and we were waiting for orders to go into camp. I stood with my back against a tree, and, being tired and sleepy, I gradually slipped down until I nearly sat on my heels. My haversack caught on the rough bark of the tree and, unknown to me, the saccharine contents slowly run down my back. I had been asleep for some time when orders were received to go into camp. The night was dark, but rail fires were built by which the men could see to fix a place to sleep. Desiring sleep worse than coffee or some fresh, made a bed, carefully took off my haversack, so as not to spill the syrup (didn't know what had happened; thought it was the rain), and laid down on my back, drawing my blanket over me. Oh, how I did sleep that night! When the bugle called in the morning I raised my head—but that was all, the remaining portion of my body was fastened to my bed. When I did finally manage to arise I was covered with sticks, stones and dirt, and of course when I looked in my haversack and discovered that all the molasses was gone, I realized what had happened. The boys had a great laugh at my expense, and I have no taste for sweet things to this day.—GEORGE COOTER, 1st Mo. Eng., Medora, Kans.

SOME TIGHT PLACES

That a Comrade Tells About—But the Johnnies Couldn't Kill Him.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—The following are some of close quarters in which I was during the war:

First—At Stone's river, December 31, 1863, when we were laying on the ground between a turnpike and the railroad, a rebel regiment in our front firing into us, while the 10th Ind. artillery (Capt. Cox) was in our rear, firing shot and shell over us. Joe Montgomery, my right-hand man was killed.

Second—The charge at Mission Ridge. We crossed the open field at the foot of the ridge, then up the ridge, while shot and shell came hissing among us. I was shot in the right knee, and it was a bad one.

Third—The battle at Rocky Face Ridge, near Dalton.

Fourth—One evening we drove the Johnnies into their works at Altoona mountains, Ga. Of all the "scaly" places to be in, a night charge on the enemy's works is the worst. There was a continual fire in our front, the works were in a bright blaze, and it was a wonder we could see nothing but the flashes from the enemy's guns. We got so close on to their works part of our line had to fall back 150 yards. Five Union soldiers were killed that night, and laid there thirteen days, when the Johnnies evacuated. Nothing but grease spots remained of our fallen comrades.

Fifth—On the picket line between Big Shanty and Ackworth, Ga., June 14, 1864. Behind some logs in front of me my three reps, who were trying to see how fast they could shoot at me, as I sat behind a small tree. I shot 33 times at them when one of them sent an ounce ball through my right arm, just below the shoulder. One of my comrades helped me to the rear. A surgeon cut my coat and shirt sleeves off, bandaged my arm, and I got in an ambulance and rode to the field hospital. Next morning the wounded were put in box cars and sent to Chamberlain hospital, Nashville, Tenn. I laid sick with fever in Ward 6, but it happened a comrade of Co. G, of my regiment, was nurse, and he was glad of my company. A day and took good care of me, or else, perhaps, I would not have recovered.

Sixth.—A night scene I would love to see pictured, was the front of the wagon and ambulance train between Nashville and Franklin, after the battle of Franklin. I was about half a mile back from the advance when the train suddenly halted, and musketry fire opened on us from a corn-field on our right, the bullets hissing through and among the wagons and ambulances. I remember a lady on horseback was alongside an ambulance as I passed it. I think it was Mrs. Dr. Walker. Thinking the train would be captured, I deserted it, climbed over the fence on the left of the pike, walked through the corn field about 250 yards. Coming to a creek, I followed a cross fence which led out to the pike, where I found thirteen of our advance wagons which had been captured by the Johnnies and were then burning. I sat down, with my revolver in my left hand, my right arm being totally disabled. Soon a soldier came on doublequick from the wagons, who proved to be a Union soldier from Lafayette, Ind. Soon a force came and routed the Johnnies, and our train moved on. Another time, near Munfordsville, Ky., in 1862, a number of us had to lie in a tent, "spoon-fashion," five days and nights, afflicted with pneumonia.—R. B. WILSON, Co. A, 40th Ind. V. V. S, Rensselaer, Ind.

SNAKE CREEK GAP.

He Was Among the First to Occupy the Famous Gap.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—In the Camp Fire of January 23, Comrade Owen J. Owens (3d Wis.) gives his account of passing through Snake Creek Gap. We of the 2d Div., left wing 16th A. C., Gen. G. M. Dodge, claim the honor of being the first to enter and occupy that famous gap. On the morning of May 8, 1864, our division left camp on Chickamauga creek. A march of five miles brought us to Villanow, where we were joined by a portion of Kilpatrick's cavalry; encamped that night at the entrance of the gap; next morning entered the gap, the 9th Ills. M't'd. Inft. in advance. They were soon driven back. The 66th Ills. sharpshooters, armed with Henry rifles, then deployed as skirmishers. Our brigade passed through the gap and beyond; the rebs were driven out and beyond until night, when we fell back and encamped within the gap. Our loss was slight. On May 13, moved to the right; skirmishing going on continually. On the 15th we moved in the direction of Calhoun Ferry, across the Oostenaula river. A short engagement took place there, the rebels having thrown up breastworks on the opposite side of the river. They made a stand, but the 66th Ill., aided by a Michigan battery, did not allow a rebel to show his head above their works. So close were they kept under cover that a member of the 66th swam the stream, captured a flag sticking in their works, and safely recrossed with his trophy. Gen. Sweeney, it was said, gave the brave boy 30 days' furlough and $20 in gold. Will any of the 66th Illinois tell us the name of this hero? After the pontoon was laid we crossed the river, still pushing the rebels in an eastward direction. Night overtook us about a mile east of the river.

We threw up breast-works, which extended through a garden filled with flowers, among which lay several dead rebels. Surely it was "death among the flowers." Next morning the 2d division left its breastworks, moving toward the railroad, running south from Resaca. During the night the rebels had disappeared from our immediate front, but they had not gone far. After marching a few miles skirmishing commenced. We crowded the rebels two miles further east, when we were brought "up standing." We had run against the main portion of Johnston's army on its retreat. We held our ground for two hours, but were almost surrounded. The rebels were already on three sides of us, and were fast closing in on our rear, when we were ordered to retreat, which order we lost no time in obeying. We fell back about a mile to a hill, which we held until reinforced by the 15th corps, that had marched double-quick from Calhoun Ferry.—LEWIS F. ROE, Co. C, 50th Ills. Inft., Adams, Ills.

A GOOD REASON.

Some Experience With Guerrillas—Joke on Gen. Steel.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—Comrade McCurdy, 3d Mich. Cav., speaks about a "ghastly find," and seems to think that the 22d Ohio boys did the hanging. I don't know who did the hanging, but will say if the boys of the 22d did do it, they had good cause for so doing. We were guards on the road for about one year. We went on the road October 28, 1863, and were relieved October 26, 1864. During the winter 1863-64 the citizens of the country would come to our camps (we had six or eight camps for our regiment) and eat with the boys, and stay sometimes for a week or more at a time, always appearing very friendly; but as soon as spring came and the leaves became thick on the trees, the citizens turned guerrillas; and then woe to any of the boys that were caught away from camp alone—they were sure to be shot or hung. We found one of our boys hanging to the limb of a tree not a mile from camp, and another who had been killed and thrown into a pond about the same distance from camp. The guerrillas began the fight, and if they got the worst of it they ought not complain. I think the body found by McCurdy was that of the man who led a party of our men into an ambush one night in 1864, in which we lost one man killed and several wounded. We sent a number of guerrillas to Little Rock, and about all of them came back with an oath of allegiance and protection papers in their pockets.

We got a good joke on Gen. Steel once. The general was down to our headquarters camp at Bayou Meter, and seeing we had some nice fat beef cattle in the corral, he wanted to know why we got them. Of course we told him. Next day we received an order to get a carload for the troops at Little Rock. We got the car load, but the next time I saw the general he wanted to know why his cattle were not as good as the ones we had. I told him the good ones were all gone. So they were; but we knew where to find them, and I think the general believed so, too, from the way he looked. I wonder if McCurdy remembers the race he had with one of the 22d boys who rode a pony?—GRUB SERGEANT, 22d O. V. I., St. Mary's, O.

A COLONEL

Who was Liked by His Men—Picnickers and the Patrol Guard.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—In the summer of 1853, when the 12th Wis., Col. Lyon, was quartered at Humboldt, West Tennessee, four companies (C, F, K and M) of the 5th Iowa were encamped near the Badgers. Col. Lyon, being the ranking officer, was, of course, in command of all the forces about Humboldt. The boys from the Badger State were good, true soldiers, as were all the Wisconsin regiments. They just about worshipped Col. Lyon. I was not surprised when we got the news of the wonderful endurance of the 12th on Bald Hill before Atlanta, for it was Col. Lyon that remarked to those boys: "We either hold this hill or the history of the 12th Wis. will terminate here." I have often been laughed at for the remark that a great deal depended on how the boys liked their officers. I honestly believe that every man in the 12th Wis. would have died cheerfully in defense of their colonel. When an officer combined firmness with love and kindness he acquired a willing obedience in men that can be had in no other way. The soldiers of the West were not given much to the worship of men, but when they did love a commander, it meant something. The 11th Wis. boys were as full of fun as any of us, but if they were asked to take part in any devilment they would invariably say, "The colonel might not like it," or, "We had better see what the old man says about it."

There were a great many young ladies about Bunkoldt, and most of them were in habits to go to the Lyceum soldiers' dance at all times ready to attend a dance or picnic—in fact, anything to entertain the soldiers. A good many of the Humboldt girls had a habit of chewing tobacco. Their favorite brand was Long Green twist and these damsels generally carried a twist in their pockets. On one occasion a number of the boys of Co.'s C and M, of the 5th cavalry, were having a high old time down the river, three miles from camp. During the day there had been a picnic, and the fun was "fast and furious." But there came an interruption, and that interruption was the appearance of a dozen or more of the 12th Wis. boys, commanded by a lieutenant. Some of our boys were in the house, some in the woods close by and others in an old tub of a boat on the Forked Deer river. There were, perhaps, sixteen of us engaged in trying to convince the natives that we were perfectly harmless. The Humboldt damsels were good dancers. Their worst fault was tobacco chewing. Talk about spitting at a mark! Why any of them could hit a mars at six paces with perfect ease. The Wisconsin boys were sorry to have to break in on our sport so unceremoniously, but they did not say so then; they rather enjoyed our discomfiture.

The officer was somewhat premature in demanding our surrender, for when the boys dropped to the tracks, there was no arrest on the lads, they began to side off through the woods. I faced the officer and demanded to know the reason for the arrest. He would not answer me; that made me hot. I asked him if he was Gen. Grant, at which he got in a fearful rage, and said if I did not keep quiet he would tie me. Then I gave a war whoop that set the girls to screaming and running in every direction. The Wisconsin boys formed in line of battle, the lieutenant, with naked sword, at their head. He gave the order in a suppressed but firm tone, "Charge!" Heavens, how those Badgers gobbled us! But when the melee was over and they began to look for the results of their first bayonet charge in Dixie, they had six prisoners, two of which were girls, who energetically masticated their "Long Green," and between chews begged of the boys who had them in tow to release them. The boys also captured a fat, unwieldly colored cook.

"Fo' de Lawd's sake," she exclaimed, "I ain't done nuffin'; I'se jes' gettin' de suppah fo' de young missus!"

In the midst of her explanations the two boys who were holding her by the arms simultaneously let go and she turned a back sumersault.

The lieutenant then collected his prisoners (among them Mart Bowman, Nate Russell and myself, of Co. C) and marched them triumphantly to camp, taking us to headquarters. Col. Lyon was very polite, but I was sulky. He asked me what I was doing down at the river in the night-time, and I told him I was attending to my own business; which was more than he could say if he ordered our arrest. The old colonel laughed outright as he answered that we saw our duty in different lights. He told the guard to keep us until morning; but as they had no place to keep us, only the commissary house, they chucked us in that to get rid of us. We soon discovered some hams, and shouldering one each, we jumped out of the back window and were soon in our bunks, and next morning we had ham for breakfast.—DAN KNIGHT, Colfax, Iowa.

SOME LONG JOHNS.

Two Comrades Encounter a Bull Dog in a Potato Patch.

EDITOR CAMP FIRE—In the fall of 1863, while in camp at Fayetteville, West Va., we were annoyed by a guerrilla named Mosby. He would slip around and capture a picket post or a wagon train from us, and then one or two companies of our regiment would be hustled out after him, traveling over rugged mountains and precipices scarcely passable by the wild animals. On one of these expeditions, when about two miles from camp, we passed a Johnny's plantation. The reb had a fine "patch" of Irish potatoes, and two comrades and myself flanked the picket post that night and went back to get some of the rebel's Long John tubers. We arrived all right and had just commenced digging potatoes when a bulldog came from under the house near by, and set up a furious barking, which brought the old man to the door. We dropped to the ground and kept quiet until the dog quieted down, and the planter went to bed. Then we resumed operations; but the dog heard us, also the old man, who came to the door dressed only in his nightshirt. He hissed the dog on, and followed the brute as it came toward us. Bill, my partner, was lying in a row nearest the house, and I was reclining near by. He raised up and said: "Ike, give me your revolver, and I'll shoot him—out of the old rebel——." That had the desired effect, for the Johnny wheeled about and made a "straight shirt-tail" for the house, crying out:

"Don't shoot, I'll go; don't shoot I'll go!"

We threw a few potatoes at the dog, driving him back, and then we filled the sacks we had brought along with potatoes, without further molestation. We reached camp in due time, and hugely enjoyed our Long John potatoes.—ISAAC M. MCJUNKIN, Co. C, 91st O. V. I., Sedan, (no state.)

SONS AND DAUGHTERS.

Laura E. Glick, Barneston, Neb., writes: "I am a soldier's daughter, and delight in reading the Camp Fire. My father enlisted in Co. I, 116th Ind. He often tells me incidents which happened during the war. I am a friend of the Union soldiers."

Rula Davidson, Hope, Ills., says: "My father belonged to Co. D, 123d Ills. Vols., under Capt. J. L. Hart. He would like to hear from comrades of his company."

Nora B. Kimberlin, Weldon, Iowa: "My father, Joseph Kimberlin, was a private in Co. F, 13th W. Va. I. V., and served nearly three years, under Col. Wm. R. Brown. He was on

Question Bureau.

Rules.—1.—Do not send more than three queries at one time. All questions to receive attention, must be on separate sheets from business letters or articles for other departments, written on one side of the paper only, and the true name and address must be given. If requested, the name and address will not be published.

2.—Do not ask us where you can *sell* anything, or where you can *buy* anything. Such requests are advertisements, and must be paid for.

3.—No addresses will be given, either of business firms or of persons, in reply to requests. To do so would be to give them free advertising.

4.—Do not ask whether any business, company or individual is reliable. We will not reply.

5.—This department is intended to answer only such queries as are of general interest to the masses of the BLADE'S readers; hence we will not waste space in answering questions that are not.

6.—We can not give space to mathematical problems, puzzles, etc., nor will we decide bets.

7.—No replies by mail, under *any* circumstances.

PENSION QUESTIONS.

A Number of Queries From The Blade's Soldier Constituency.

A. S., Harding, Kan.: "When was the bill passed in Congress to give maimed soldiers artificial limbs every five years, and when did it come into effect?"

Act approved August 15, 1866, and went into effect immediately.

S. A. G., Delhi, Iowa: "My son was in the Quartermaster's department at Memphis. He wrote he was drafted into the City Guards and drilled as a soldier. One evening he was taken with a hemorrhage of the lungs. When he had recovered sufficiently to ride, he came home. All was done that could be done for him. He lived about six months. The disease was supposed to be brought on by damp air in the fort."

If you were wholly or in part dependent upon that son for support at that time, and he was actually sworn into the service of the United States, a pension can be obtained.

J. A. W., Permise, Mo.: "Is there any law passed by Congress granting relief to old infirm widows to get pensions? There are four of us together here."

There is no law for pensioning any state militia, of course. If the husband were sworn into the United States service, you are on the same footing with any other widow of an United States soldier.

A. S. W., Atkinsonville, Ind.: "Do pensioners have to be examined every three years, as heretofore?"

No unless an increase of pension is asked, or the pensioner wishes to rerate fraud in the original examination or application.

H. G. D., Slayton, Minn.: "There is a worthy and deserving old soldier who, several years since, gave his discharge papers into the hands of a pension agent for the purpose of securing a pension. After a little effort these papers were lost. Will this loss forever prevent any further effort? Can or must a duplicate copy of said papers be obtained from Washington? If so, what necessary steps should be taken?"

A duplicate of the discharge can be obtained through the adjutant general's office at Washington; but it is not absolutely necessary in order to obtain a pension, as the records in the War department show the fact of honorable discharge. Put the case into the hands of some honorable agent.

Mrs. J. B. L.: "Was there a bill passed lately to pension mother soldiers' children more than $2 per month after the age of 16?"

No. Such a measure is pending, but its chances of passage are doubtful, in our opinion.

J. C., Belcherville, Tex.: "I have a pension claim before the Pension department, and I want to know if any official has the right to charge for executing pension papers—that is, for seals, affidavits, etc.?"

Yes. The fees for executing legal documents are fixed by law in the different states. Consuls have no power to order them executed free of charge.

H. L. S., Bristoria, Pa.: "Please tell me where I can obtain a copy of a discharge, my father's being lost?"

Apply to the Adjutant General's office at Washington. Better have an attorney secure it for you, as there is a good deal of red tape about it.

H. J. A., Montrose, Iowa: 1.—"Is there any probability of the soldiers in the Seminole war ever being pensioned? 2.—Have they any right to be admitted to soldiers' Home? 3.—Will the number in that service be taken by the census?"

1.—No. 2.—No. 3.—No.

P. S., Peoria, Iowa: We have disposed of your letter as you requested.

F. M. M., Millerton, Pa.: "If your father had been sworn into the United States service, you are entitled to a pension until the age of 16.

B. L. C., Latham, Tenn., says: "Tell me why the pension laws allow $8 per month for total disability and $30 for inability to perform manual labor. Why is it inability to perform manual labor any greater degree of disability than total disability?"

Section 4695 of the U. S. Revised Statutes, provide pension at $8 per month for total disability, third grade. Section 4697 provides for a pension at $30 per month for specific disabilities, such as loss of arm, or leg, below the knee or elbow, $30 if at or above knee or above elbow, and $45 if at shoulder or hip joint. Section 4698 provides for pension at $72 per month for utter helplessness, such as loss of both feet, both eyes, or equivalent disabilities; and a recent law raises from $72 to $100 per month, the pension of those who lost both arms. Of these there are eighteen p n sioners by this law, and one by special enactment.

Land Grants in Ohio.

G. M. C., Logan, O., writes: "Will you be so kind as to give the location of the 'Military Reserve' of Ohio? Has it all been sold to individuals? If so, where are those funds, and what use is made of them? I have failed, from all possible sources, to obtain any satisfaction whatever."

We fancy your failure is because there is no tract of land in Ohio known as the "Military Reserve." The list of purchases and grants in Ohio is as follows:

The Ohio company's purchase, October 27, 1787, within the present counties of Washington, Athens, Meigs, and Gallia.

The "seven ranges" of public lands, pursuant to act of Congress of May 18, 1785, bounded by a line 42 miles long, due west from the point where the western boundary of Pennsylvania crosses the Ohio river, thence south to the Ohio. Jefferson, Columbiana, Carroll, Stark, Wayne, Holmes, Guernsey, Belmont, Noble, Monroe and Washington counties are, wholly or partly, in this area.

The "Symmes purchase," embracing the Ohio river front between the mouths of the Little Miami and Great Miami rivers—27 miles—and reaching north so as to embrace one million acres.

The "Virginia military lands," lying between the Scioto and Little Miami, granted by patents to Virginians who had rendered service on the continental establishment in the army of the United States. It embraces 4,204,800 acres. It embraces all of Adams, Brown, Clermont, Clinton, Fayette, Highland, Madison and Union counties, and portions of Marion, Delaware, Franklin, Pickaway, Ross, Pike, Scioto, Warren, Greene, Clarke, Champaign, Logan and Hardin.

The "Western Reserve," claimed by Connecticut, and ceded to the United States in 1809, a tract 120 miles long, west of Pennsylvania, all situated between the parallels of 41 deg. and 42 deg. 2 min. It embraces the counties of Ashtabula, Cuyahoga, Erie, Geauga, Huron, Lake, Lorain, Medina, Portage and Trumbull, and parts of Mahoning, Ashland and Ottawa. A half-million acres, lying in Huron, Erie and Ottawa counties, was set apart by Connecticut in 1792 to be given to persons in various Connecticut towns whose property was burned by the British; hence this tract is known as the "Fire Lands."

The "French grant" is a tract of 25,200 acres in Scioto county, granted by Congress in March, 1795, to certain French settlers in Gallipolis who lost their lands there through defective titles.

The "United States military lands," surveyed under act of Congress of June 1, 1796, containing 2,500,000 acres. This tract was set apart to satisfy certain claims of the officers and soldiers of the Revolution. It includes Coshocton county, small parts of Tuscarawas, Guernsey, Muskingum, Licking, Franklin, Delaware, Marion, Morrow, Knox and Holmes.

The "refugee tract," 100,000 acres, granted by act of Congress, Feb. 18, 1801, to persons living in the British provinces during the Revolution, who took up arms for the colonies and thereby lost their property by confiscation. It lies in Franklin, Fairfield, Perry, Licking and Muskingum counties.

The "Moravian lands," three tracts of 4,000 acres each, in Tuscarawas county, given by Congress to Christianized Indians controlled by the Moravians.

"Dohrman's grant," 23,040 acres in Tuscarawas county, given by act of Congress, Feb. 27, 1801, to Arnold Henry Dohrman, a Portuguese merchant of Lisbon, for having given shelter and aid, during the Revolution, to American war vessels.

These are all the principal grants and surveys in Ohio. We believe the land has all passed into private ownership. The secretary of state or treasurer of state can probably inform you if there was any special disposition of the funds arising from their sale to private holders.

No Day Lost or Gained.

J. C., Pawnee, asks: "Will you explain the time gained or lost by two persons traveling round the world, one starting east, the other west? 2.—Also, if it were possible for said individuals to accomplish the trip in one day, what would be the result? Would one see two sunrises while the other saw but one?"

1.—There is no day lost or gained in going around the world. What you will lose or gain if you go around the world, is a date, not a day. In traveling westward, each date, commonly called a day, hides the fact that for each degree of longitude passed over you have added four minutes to the 24 hours. If at noon, when by custom you change your date, you will find you have traversed fifteen degrees, then your "day" has contained 25 hours instead of 24. In going to the eastward, the conditions would be reversed, and your date called a "day" would contain but 23 hours. But if your and your friend should stand back to back at New York, and starting at the same instant walk straight around the world, each walking three miles an hour and never stopping for anything, you would both meet and pass half-way in exactly 3,500 hours, and you would each arrive in New York in exactly 7,000 hours. State the time in hours and you will grasp it immediately.

2.—If you left New York at sunrise and traveled westward around the world in just 24 hours, you would travel just as fast as the sun, and it would be sunrise all the time till you got back. If you traveled eastward, you would meet the next sunrise half-way round, and get back home at sunrise again.

The Charge at Fort Blakely.

J. M. P., Polo, Mo., says: "In THE BLADE of February 13 the question is asked, 'Can you give the hour when the charge was made in which Fort Blakely was captured?' I was there, and kept a brief journal of each day's occurrences. Sunday, April 9, 1865, news came that Gen. A. J. Smith's guerrillas stormed Spanish Fort and captured everything in it, with 500 prisoners. Eight pieces of artillery and seven Parrotts were sent past our camp to the fort prepared for them on our left. The regiment was under orders to move at a moment's notice. All seemed to be very quiet on skirmish line. Between 4 and 5 o'clock all the troops moved out and charged upon Fort Blakely, and captured it; it was twenty minutes from the time they started from the rifle pits until all was still. According to the best information nearly 3,000 prisoners were captured and 40 pieces of artillery. The 119th Illinois captured two generals and three colors; the 1st brigade captured 2500 prisoners; the flag of the 119th Illinois was the first on the ground, and was planted just as I jotted it down at the time. Gen. A. J. Smith's command was not at the capture of Spanish Fort, but took in the capture of Fort Blakely. The 119th Illinois was in Smith's corps."

Chas. J. A. S., Co. F., 23d Wis., Bennington, N. Y., writes: "The charge in which Fort Blakely, near Mobile, was captured was made at 3 p. m. April 9, 1865."

W. A. H., Co. H, 21st Mo., Fairmont, Mo., writes: "Fort Blakely, Mobile, was taken on Sunday, April 9, 1865, at 6:30 p. m."

There is a difference of statement as to the exact time. Who is right?

The Gulf Stream.

J. H. C., Kalamazoo, Mich., and C. V., Winona, O.: The Gulf stream has not changed its course permanently; and if it did, it would not affect our climate. Its waters are spread northward beyond its ordinary limits, according to the observations of vessel masters, made within the last month; but this is because of the prevalence, on the Atlantic, of strong east-southeast winds. Its limits are closely hugged by ships, homeward bound with the winds. But this temporary change does not explain the abnormally mild winter. No seaman or scientist supposes that the great "river in the sea" is so diverted as to surge against our Atlantic coast line, or that, had this been the case, such a change of its course would have caused the almost vernal mildness of the weather which has all winter prevailed on the seaboard and far inland beyond the Alleghanies. If the Gulf stream should wash against and overrun our entire coast, from Florida to Maine, it would be powerless to cause the springtime season so generally noted west of the Alleghanies. The prevailing drift of air over this part of the northern hemisphere is from the southwest, and as the only influence of the Gulf stream can be ove ver climate comes from the winds that blow over it and thence over the land, it is evident that any change of the stream, even were such a thing a fact, could not affect the climate of the United States west of the Alleghanies. You should read up the subject in some school text-book on physical geography.

"General" and "Lieutenant General."

D. P. S., Paragon, Ind., writes: "The office of lieutenant general of the army was revived by Congress, and Gen. Grant was appointed thereto. When he resigned, was the rank annulled? Or is the rank still in force? If so, would it devolve in all probability upon Gen. Sheridan? Please give names of all persons who, as held it."

The rank of lieutenant general was created for Washington. With his death, the grade lapsed, and was not again revived until it was conferred upon Gen. Winfield Scott. Congress revived it again for Grant. Later, a still higher grade was created that of "General." It was bestowed on Grant, and Sherman succeeded to the rank of lieutenant general. When Grant was chosen President, Sherman became general, and the rank of lieutenant general was conferred on Sheridan. When Sherman was retired, the grade of general lapsed until, during Sheridan's last illness, it was conferred upon him. With his death the grade of lieutenant general are co-ferred by special act and expire with the holder.

Gladstone.

M. A., Porter Co., Ind.: Hon. Wm. Ewart Gladstone was born at Liverpool in 1809; entered the House of Commons in 1832, from the borough of Newark; was a member of the Sir Robert Peel cabinet in 1835 for a few months; in 1847 was elected to the Commons from the University of Oxford, which he continued to represent for 18 years. In 1860, he being leader in the House, Gladstone brought in a reform bill, the defeat of which caused Earl Russell to resign as Prime Minister. In 1869, Gladstone carried through the bill disestablishing the Irish church; in 1870, his Irish land bill; in 1871, secured the abolition of the system of purchase in the army; and in 1872, the ballot bill. In 1874, after dissolving Parliament and appealing to the country, which elected an opposition majority in the Commons, the Gladstone ministry resigned. In 1880, on the defeat of the Disraeli ministry, Gladstone became Prime Minister, resign ng in June, 1885. Late in that year, he again came into power, and in 1886 brought in a third bill for Ireland—a land bill and a Home Rule bill. The bill was rejected, Parliament dissolved, and Gladstone appealed to the country, but was defeated. He is, of course, the most prominent man in the English Commons.

Revolutionary Widows.

G. B. H., Bridgeton, Ind., quotes the following paragraph from a recent issue of THE BLADE:

"The pension department at Washington has upon its rolls the name of 27 widows of Revolutionary soldiers who have been regularly paid pensions up to the present time. Three of them are 97 years of age, and two of them 96. The youngest is 71."

As to the fact he expresses doubt, saying: "As it has been 115 years since the commencement of the Revolution, and 107 years since its close, how is it possible for widows of Revolutionary soldiers to be alive and be less than 100 years old?"

The fact is as stated in the paragraph, and the explanation is this: After the eminent enactments of laws for Revolutionary soldiers, and it was known that the widow of every such soldier would be entitled to a pension for life, there were frequent instances where a young woman married an old man, for the sake of the provision for her lifetime she was certain of getting. If a Revolutionary soldier of 60 or 70 married a woman of 25 to 35, his widow might well be alive to-day. The same state of things is true as regards the pensioners of the war of 1812.

To Find Contents of a Lime-Kiln.

We are indebted to L. F. C., Toledo, O., for the following rule, in reply to the request in the BLADE of February 13:

The problem is that of finding the volume of the frustrum of a pyramid.

The frustrum of a pyramid is equivalent to three pyramids having the same height as the frustrum. The base of the first is the base of the frustrum; that of the second is the top of the frustrum, and that of the third is a mean proportioned between the other two bases.

Hence to find the volume of the pyramid, multiply together the length and width of the pile at the bottom by one-third the perpendicular height of the pile; and in a similar way get the volume of the second pyramid.

To get the third pyramid multiply together the bottom length and width and that product by the top width and length and extract the square root of this product. Multiply this root by one-third the perpendicular height of the pile.

Finally add together the volumes of the three pyramids and divide the sum by the number of cubic feet in a perch.

Value and Peril of Our Public Schools.

Allen, Chicago, Ill.: Your questions are too general. You should specify what particulars you want, for the public school system is too large a matter to discuss in one answer. Briefly, the value of the public school system is in bringing to all, even the poorest, the possibility of education; for in a country like this, where every man has a vote, the stability of a government by the people depends upon the intelligence of the masses of the masses themselves. The greatest peril, in our view, of the public school system arises from the efforts of certain religious denominations to break it down, by demanding that they be given their share of the public school fund, on the specious plea that the schools are "godless." They are no more "godless" than is a store, or an office, or a factory, or a mill, or any other place where young people are brought together. Education is a training of the faculties of the mind, a teaching of the child to use his mental powers, and has no more relation to religion than has a factory where the hand is trained to perform certain duties.

To Publish a Book.

E. G. R., Joliet, Ill., and Anxious Inquirer, Mt. Tabor, Ore.: In the Bureau of January 23 you will find an article "To Young Authors," which tells all about preparation of MSS. Never roll manuscript.

To get a book on the market you must find a publisher. New York is the best publication point in the United States, and a new book published there has a better chance to reach the attention of the reading public. There being an overplus of authors, it is difficult for an unknown writer to get a publisher to undertake to bring out a book, unless you stand the expense of setting the type, stereotyping, printing and binding the first 1,000 copies. Don't expect to make any money out of the venture, or you will likely be disappointed. If the first book sells well, you will be able to get the second published without much difficulty.

Sometimes a publisher buys a book MS. outright; sometimes he publishes it at his own expense, paying the author a royalty. The only way is to write to publishers, and find out whether they are disposed to undertake the publication of the book.

The Old Slave States—Tennessee's Secession—Brice's Residence.

Subscriber, Monon Ind.: 1.—The following were slave states in 1861, at the beginning of the rebellion: Delaware, Maryland, Virginia (which then included what is now West Virginia), North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Texas, Arkansas, Missouri, Tennessee and Kentucky—all in all. Tennessee first adopted an ordinance of secession. On Feb. 9, 1861, the people voted on the question whether a convention should be held to consider the subject of withdrawing from the Union. It resulted in a majority of nearly 12,000 against a convention. On May 6 the legislature again submitted the question of secession to the people, which was carried by a majority of 57,675. The people of East Tennessee were strongly loyal, however.

3.—Calvin S. Brice has resided with his family for several years in New York city. Before his election as Senator, he came back and sojourned at Lima, his former home. Whether this makes him a "resident" of the state, as meant by the federal constitution, is a question for the United States Senate to decide.

Queer Figures.

W. M. R., Ogallah, Kan.: 1.—Can you not yourself see the absurdity of the statements you quote that "when Egypt went down, 3 per cent of her population owned 97 per cent of her wealth; when Babylon fell, 2 per cent of her population owned all of her wealth; when Rome went down, 1,800 men owned all the known world; and in 1850 the capitalists of the United States owned 87½ per cent of the wealth of this country, and in 1870 they owned 63 per cent of its wealth?" No one knows enough about Babylon or Egypt to make any statement, much less reduce the matter to figures and percentages. No historian makes any statement on which the above wild assertions can be based, nor is the case any better as regards Rome. We know of no statistics on which the statements as regards the United States can be based. The whole thing is a farrago of nonsense fit merely to delude the ignorant.

2.—"Shinplaster" and a nuisance, not to be endured as long as we are able to have silver subsidiary coin; nor are they large number of the people in favor of them. The per capita currency of the country is given in the Bureau of Feb. 13.

Jeff. Davis's Cabinet.

W. B., Mendon, O.: 1.—By the provisions of the law under which Texas entered the Union, and also according to Article IV., Sec. 3, of the constitution, Texas (nor any other state) cannot be divided into two or more states without her own consent; and the people of Texas have never been in favor of dividing it.

2.—Jeff. Davis's cabinet consisted of: Secretary of State, Robert Toombs, of Georgia; secretary of the Treasury, Charles G. Memminger, of South Carolina; secretary of War, Leroy P. Walker, of Alabama; secretary of the Navy, Stephen R. Mallory, of Florida; Postmaster general, John H. Reagan, of Texas; Attorney general, Judah P. Benjamin, of Louisiana.

3.—"Emin Pasha" is thus pronounced: "E-min Pas-sha-aw." In the first word "E" is sounded long, and the first syllable is accented. In the second, "Pa" is pronounced with the sound of a in "far," and the second is accented.

Why a President Don't Need a Majority.

E. J. P., Bibler, Ind., says: "1.—I saw in THE BLADE or in the Bureau that R. B. Hayes received 4,033,950 votes and Samuel J. Tilden 4,284,885, for President in 1876. Why was Tilden not elected?"

Because he had not a majority of electoral votes. The President is not elected by popular vote, but by electors; and each state chooses as many electors as it has senators and representatives in Congress. One state may choose its electors by one method, another by another ticket, and another state, with just as many electors, may choose those of the opposite party by a very slender majority. So it frequently happens that the President chosen has not a majority of the popular vote. Read the Constitution of the United States.

2.—Easter always came on Sunday. In 1852 it came on April 11; in 1874 it came on April 5.

Mortgage Indebtedness.

H. G. B., Geneseo, N. Y., says: "In the Bureau of February 6, in reply to A. S. W., Rushsylvania, O., you say 'There is no way of getting the exact amount of mortgages in Ohio, other than going to each of the 88 county seats and getting the numbers of the county recorder.' I cannot see how that would show how much was really owing on the mortgages, as many of them are finally satisfied, paid and endorsed on the mortgages, which does not appear on the records. Has not the indebtedness of the people of the different states been greatly overestimated by reporting it as taken from the records?"

Yes, undoubtedly so. The statistics of mortgage indebtedness, to be taken with the census, will be the first trustworthy figures of the sort ever obtained.

Why Rhode Island Has Two Capitals.

L. J. B., Station 15, O., and J. W. K., Twelve Mile, Kan.: 1.—Rhode Island was originally two colonies—one founded at Newport, on Rhode Island, in Narragansett bay; the other at Providence. They were united under the name of "Rhode Island and Providence Plantations," which, we believe, is the official name of the little state even now. In order to avoid jealousy between the two, it was arranged that the legislature should meet alternately at Providence and Newport; and that's the reason Rhode Island has two capitals. Why don't you read some school history of the United States, and use your reasoning powers as you ought?

2.—A nomination, like a motion, requires a second; and it should never be dispensed with.

Should Lumber be Free?

J. G. E., Alki, Wash., asks: "If lumber were on the free list would it not answer the double purpose of reducing the price of building material, and preserving our forests?"

No. The statement in your question looks very plausible, but it isn't correct. The only country which could furnish us ordinary building lumber is the Dominion of Canada; and as soon as we took off the import duty, Canada would put on an export duty equal or nearly equal to our duty, as she does now on raw timber, which is free. Lumber wouldn't be a penny cheaper, and nobody would be benefited save the Canadian government.

Chief Justices of the United States.

L. J. B., Station 15, O.: 1.—The Chief Justices of the Supreme court, since its foundation, have been:

	From.	To.
John Jay, New York	1789	1795
John Rutledge, South Carolina	1795	1795
Oliver Ellsworth, Connecticut	1796	1800
John Marshall, Virginia	1801	1835
Roger B. Taney, Maryland	1836	1864
Salmon P. Chase, Ohio	1864	1873
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2.—We do not understand what you mean by a "pure" flame.

"Los Angeles" and "Houdan."

R. G., Stuart, Neb.: 1.—The phrase, "some place else," is inelegant. It should be, "some other place." 2.—Los Angeles is pronounced thus: the "Los" to rhyme with "dose,"—a dose of medicine; "Ang-hel-es"—the *a* in "ang" as in "far," the *ng* sounded as they are in "sing," "hel" pronounced to rhyme with "fell;" the "es" pronounced like "ess" in "press," accent on the "Ang." 3.—The word is "Houdan" is pronounced "hoo-don," accent on the second.

Our Four Largest Cities.

J. A. H., Fred, Ind. Ter.: It is impossible to tell the population of any city accurately until the census this year is taken. The best estimates for the four cities you name are, we think:

	Population.
New York	1,700,000
Philadelphia	1,250,000
Chicago	1,150,000
Brooklyn	835,000

Islands in Navigable Rivers.

A. C. B., Mapleton, Iowa: An island in a navigable river belongs to the state in which that portion of the river lies. The boundary line is always specified in the act of Congress creating the state. For instance, Kentucky's northern boundary is the low-water mark on the northern shore of that river, and hence all the islands in the river belong to Kentucky. The boundary is generally along the line of deepest channel, and the proprietorship of an island depends on which side of this channel it is situated.

"Legal Holidays."

T. B. F., Exeter, Neb., corrects the list of legal holidays given in the Bureau of January 23. The list of state holidays authorized by law in Nebraska is as follows:

"New Year's Day; Washington's birthday; April 22, or Arbor Day, which originated in Nebraska; December 25; May 30, or Decoration Day; July 4, and Thanksgiving Day; and I am informed that at the last legislative session Labor Day was established, but I am not able to give date."

"Empress of India."

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BEAUTY of Skin & Scalp RESTORED by the CUTICURA Remedies.

NOTHING IS KNOWN TO SCIENCE AT ALL comparable to the CUTICURA REMEDIES in their marvellous properties of cleansing, purifying and beautifying the skin and in curing torturing, disfiguring, itching, scaly and pimply diseases of the skin, scalp and blood, with loss of hair.

CUTICURA, the great Skin Cure, and CUTICURA SOAP, an exquisite Skin Beautifier, prepared from it, externally, and CUTICURA RESOLVENT, the New Blood Purifier, internally, cure every form of skin and blood diseases, from pimples to scrofula.

Sold everywhere. Price: CUTICURA, 50c.; SOAP, 25c.; RESOLVENT, $1. Prepared by the POTTER DRUG AND CHEMICAL CO., Boston, Mass.

Send for "How to Cure Skin Diseases."

Pimples, blackheads, chapped and oily skin prevented by CUTICURA SOAP.

Dull Aches, Pains and Weaknesses instantly relieved by the CUTICURA ANTI-PAIN PLASTER, the only pain-killing plaster. 25c.

DR. T. B. NYERS, of David City, Neb., writes: Dr. Seth Arnold's Cough Killer is the best remedy for whooping cough and measles I ever saw. SOLD BY ALL DEALERS. Prices, 25c., 50c and $1 per bottle.

SICK HEADACHE

CARTER'S LITTLE LIVER PILLS.

Positively Cured by these Little Pills.

They also relieve Distress from Dyspepsia, Indigestion and Too Hearty Eating. A perfect remedy for Dizziness, Nausea, Drowsiness, Bad Taste in the Mouth, Coated Tongue, Pain in the Side, TORPID LIVER, &c. They regulate the Bowels and prevent Constipation and Piles. The smallest and easiest to take. Only one pill a dose. Purely vegetable. Price 25 cents.

CARTER MEDICINE CO., Prop'rs, New York

What You Need Spring and Fall

WHEN you feel "all run down" is Ayer's Sarsaparilla. For restoring strength after sickness, or toning up the system at any time, this is the medicine of all others. Don't waste time and money on worthless compounds, whatever their pretensions; but remember that Ayer's has been the standard Sarsaparilla for nearly half a century and has no equal.

"Sometime ago I found my system entirely run down. I had a feeling of constant fatigue and languor and very little ambition for any kind of effort. A friend advised me to try Ayer's Sarsaparilla, which I did with the best results. It has done me more good than all other medicines I have ever used."—Frank Mellows, Chelsea, Mass.

"I was all run down before I began taking Ayer's Sarsaparilla, and now I am gaining in strength every day."—Mrs. Alice West, Jefferson, W. Va.

"I have used Ayer's Sarsaparilla for several years. When I feel weary and worn out, it always helps me."—A. Grommet, Kingsville, Johnson Co., Mo.

"I was long troubled with nervous debility and severe headaches. By the use of Ayer's Sarsaparilla I have been restored to health."—Anthony Louis, 55 Tremont st., Charlestown, Mass.

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Ayer's Sarsaparilla.

It gives perfect satisfaction."—Eugene I. Hill, M. D., 381 Sixth ave., N. Y.

Sarsaparilla invaluable."—Wm. R. Ferree, 1 Chatham st., Boston, Mass.

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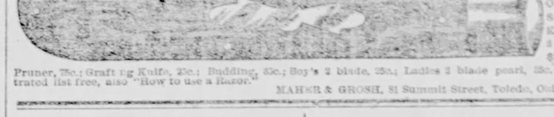

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For if you do not it may become consumptive. For *Consumption, Scrofula, General Debility* and *Wasting Diseases*, there is nothing like

SCOTT'S EMULSION

Of Pure Cod Liver Oil and HYPOPHOSPHITES Of Lime and Soda.

It is almost as palatable as milk. Far better than other so-called Emulsions. A wonderful flesh producer.

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There are poor imitations. *Get the genuine.*

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MANAGERS WANTED Every where to take charge of agents & employ help. Wages $50 to $125 per month, Expenses advanced. State experience. Wages expected. Permanent position. Address, GLOBAL & CO. Manufacturers, 334 George Street, Cincinnati, Ohio.

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Good-by, Old Dynamite.

Eersaite, the invention of Herr Siersch, is the latest candidate for explosive honors. At Olmutz, explosive was shown to have a terrible effect upon masonry, an old fort being levelled at the tenth shot. The Austrian War Minister has adopted eersaite for the use of the army, and has given a large order to the Pressburg factory. The 6 in. shell, 17 in long and weighing 72 lbs., is charged

TOLEDO BLADE.

THURSDAY, FEBRUARY 27, 1890.

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THE BLADE, Toledo, Ohio.

ENTERED AT THE POSTOFFICE AT TOLEDO AS SECOND CLASS MAIL MATTER.

Circulation Last Week, 114,000.

TO COMRADES WHO RECEIVE THIS NUMBER.

Our soldier friends are sending us in lists of names of comrades who do not take THE BLADE, that we may mail them sample copies, and receive their aid in working for a more liberal and just scale of pensions. Quite a number of comrades and others will receive sample copies of this issue. To them we say: We want the aid of your influence in our effort to build up public sentiment all over the country in favor of better pension legislation; to this end, we ask you to subscribe, and for your help to get others to do so. The influence of a paper is in direct proportion to the number of people who read it; and we propose to make our work count with Congress in this matter. We propose to *compel* our dilatory law-makers to do something; and to make the pension question a leading issue in the election of members of the Fifty-second Congress at the polls this fall. Will you help us? If you will, send us your subscription *at once*, so that you may secure the series of articles on "The Pension Question," which will constitute an array of irrefutable arguments from the veterans. Give us the aid of your example, your assistance, and your influence!

OKLAHOMA TERRITORY.

The bill organizing the territory of Oklahoma has passed the Senate, and is now before the House. Its provisions as to the area to be included in the new territory, are somewhat interesting. It makes it up out of two distinct tracts, completely separated by a broad belt of the Indian Territory, nearly 140 miles wide. The two separate areas to be brought under one territorial government are Oklahoma proper, and the "Public Land Strip," as it is officially termed, better known to the people as "No Man's Land."

The boundaries of these two areas, as defined by the bill, are as follows: Oklahoma proper lies between the Cherokee Outlet and the Canadian river, and has for its western border, except at the northwest corner, the 98th meridian of west longitude. The Public Land Strip is bounded by Kansas and Colorado on the north, Texas on the south, New Mexico on the west, and the 100th meridian on the east.

The new territory of Oklahoma will have the smallest area of any territory ever organized, as Oklahoma proper contains but 1,887,800 acres, and the Public Land Strip 3,672,640 acres. The two foot up 5,560,440 acres. This will, however, be added to in the future. Aesop as the "Cherokee outlet" can be acquired from the Indians by the government it will be annexed to Oklahoma, adding to it 6,022,244 acres, thus more than doubling its present area.

Negotiations are pending with a number of the Indian tribes in the adjacent territory—the Sacs and Foxes, the Iowas, the Kickapoos and the Pottawattomies, on the east of Oklahoma proper; the Chickasaws on the south, and the Cheyennes and Arapahoes on the west and northwest—including the 140-mile wide strip between the two sections of the proposed territory. If the negotiations with the latter two tribes are successful, the two areas will be joined by the addition of the strip lying between; and in one way or another the area of the new territory will be increased so that by the time it is ready to apply for admission to the Union, it will be quite respectable in size.

ANSWERS TO PENSION QUESTIONS.

Comrades will find their questions on pension matters answered in the Question Bureau of this week. We shall be glad to answer any that may be proposed.

THE Democrats in Wisconsin are trying to get up a race quarrel because some of the Germans in that state object to the law which compels children to attend at least three months in a year some school where the English language is taught. The law seems to be an eminently proper one, as it is an effort to Americanize our foreign settlers, and it is not believed that any considerable number of intelligent Germans object to it. When foreigners come to this country and are naturalized they are no longer Germans, Frenchmen, Italians or Irishmen, but Americans, and every effort possible should be made to teach them and their children American ideas and the English language. The policy of the Democrats, however, in all sections of the country has been to hinder progress in every direction, and it is not surprising that the party in Wisconsin should seek to make political capital by raising an issue on this educational question. It is not likely that they will gain any advantage from this course, for most of the Germans in that state are Republicans, and have the same feeling as ex-Congressman GUENTHER, who said upon the floor of the House, that when the Germans came to the United States they left all other ties behind and were for America as against the Fatherland or against the world.

As against the statements of Senators BUTLER and MORGAN that the South is ready to dispense with negro labor, comes the news that North Carolina farmers are so excited over the exodus of negro laborers that they are threatening to lynch the labor agents who have been transporting the negroes to Louisiana and Mississippi. Is it possible that the two Senators do not express the views of the Southern people generally?

A CORRESPONDENT from Central Kansas, speaking of the nonsensical Butler bill for the deportation of the negroes, makes this stinging comment:

"I would like to suggest an amendment to the effect that all the white fathers of mixed children be deported also, for it would be a pity to separate so many children from their fathers, as would necessarily be without this amendment!"

THE regulation of the reception of immigrants at Castle Garden, New York, will be under Federal control on the 18th of April, Secretary WINDOM having given the New York state commissioners of emigration the required 60 days' notice. Both the immigrants and the country will be benefited by the change.

THE ramie plant may become a formidable rival to cotton, now that a process has been discovered by which its fibre can be converted into cloth. This would add this textile plant to the resources of our Northern farmers, and give them a very profitable means of diversifying their products.

HOW ABOUT PENSIONS?

The Time Has Come to Do Justice to the Veterans.

Let Us Make an Energetic Effort to Obtain It.

Next Week our Series of Pension Discussions Begins.

THE BLADE believes the time has come when the nation should take a long step forward in the matter of pensioning the survivors of the Union army of 1861-65. In the next issue of the Weekly BLADE—March 6—we shall publish the first of a series of articles, entitled

"THE PENSION QUESTION,"

In which we shall discuss the whole subject, show what has already been done, point out what justice and fair play dictate as still necessary to be done, and, in fact, present the case of

The Soldier

In its true light before the American people, with the design of rousing popular attention and interest, and of thereby

Compelling Congress

To take the steps which are necessary in order that justice, already too long delayed, shall be done to the gray-headed, broken-down and invalid survivors of the glorious army which crushed the rebellion, preserved the Union intact, and rendered possible the magnificent progress which, in a quarter of a century, has made us one of the richest, the most prosperous and the most powerful nations on the globe.

Will You Help Us?

We ask every soldier, every comrade of the Grand Army, every Republican, every reader of THE BLADE, to do one little thing *at once* to aid in this. It is, to send us, at once, a list of names of persons—voters and heads of families—in their vicinity, to whom we may mail a sample copy of THE BLADE containing one of these articles. Don't delay, but do it *immediately*.

TWO SOUTHERN SPEAKERS.

HENRY W. GRADY, on the last occasion that he spoke in public—at the Boston banquet—stated, without palliation or equivocation, the position of the Southern Bourbon whites on the race problem. Said he:

"We of the white race of the South regard the political subjugation of the negro as essential to white supremacy, and no matter what constitutional right he possesses when in a majority, he shall not vote unless he votes with the superior race."

Which is to say, that though the constitution of the United States makes no account of an American-born citizen's color or race, though it prohibits any restriction upon the franchise based on race, color, or previous condition, the Bourbons of the South are determined that the white race alone shall be allowed unrestricted suffrage.

The other day another Southern man spoke also in Boston. He is an old soldier from Arkansas, a Southern-born citizen, a man whose brother lies in a bloody grave, murdered by a Bourbon assassin because he was a Republican—POWELL CLAYTON. He may not possess the art of tickling the ear to the degree that GRADY did, but his words have the ring of truth, of honesty, and breathe the spirit of progress, of civilization, of enlightenment. He said:

"Why should not the negro be admitted to equal citizenship with all? He is loyal; in time of war a gallant soldier, devoted and submissive; industrious, Christianized, ignorant, it is true, but through no fault of his own, but a ready learner."

Were the dead GRADY here to answer POWELL CLAYTON'S pregnant queries, his reply would voice the sentiment of Southern Bourbonism: "Because he is a nigger, he should not be a citizen." But this is not the answer of the constitution, not the answer of civilization, not the answer of any man who has his face toward the sunrise. The true answer is, "The negro is a man and his rights are sacred, whatever be the color of his skin, whatever the blood in his veins."

POWELL CLAYTON is a representative of the ideas which must dominate the South before the race problem can be solved. That problem is the most important ever before the American people—more important even than the slavery question, for that involved but the destiny of 3,000,000 American-born persons, while this involves the manhood, the progress of 8,000,000—who, though free, are held down, proscribed, outraged and despised in the states of their birth, where their underpaid toil enriches the men who deny them the rights guaranteed by the federal constitution.

SENATORS are expressing surprise at the full report of the proceedings of their executive session on the British extradition treaty which appeared in the newspapers. This surprise is simply to mislead the public and to induce a belief that it is necessary to keep up the fiction of secret sessions. As a matter of fact the Senators know that there never has been any difficulty—at least for some years—for newspaper correspondents to find out all they desired to know about the solemnities of the executive session, any many who now express indignation at the leakage have themselves been the conduit through which the information was made public. The secret session is a mere farce and ought to be abolished.

THE story of the inhuman cruelties in the Kara mines of Siberia is believed to be true, notwithstanding the denials of the Russian government; and it seems that the time has arrived for the powers of Europe to unite in a protest against a continuance of such crimes. This protest should not be a mild request, but a positive demand, in the name of civilized Christendom and humanity, that such blood-thirsty atrocities should cease. Even the present CZAR would recognize such a style of coercive diplomacy and respect it, for he knows that Russia is unable to cope against the allied powers. Unless some such action is taken the other governments will be particeps criminis in these inhuman methods of punishment.

A SOUTHERN postmaster is likely to see inside of a penitentiary on account of his desire to deceive a colored preacher. He wrote a letter to the preacher, informing him that he had been appointed to an office worth $100 a month, and signed President HARRISON'S name. The man went to Washington and there learned he had been deceived. Now the postmaster has been arrested and will probably learn that there are some United States laws that even Southerners are bound to respect or suffer the consequences of their infraction.

THE familiar assertion, mouthed by demagogues all over the country, that "the rich are growing richer, and the poor poorer," is characterized by Prof. WM. T. HARRIS as "not supported by any reliable nor pertinent statistics." Quite to the contrary, he points out that the average income of workingmen has been steadily rising for the last thirty years, in the United States, while the profits of capital, through the enlargement of competition, have been steadily tending downward.

JEFF DAVIS'S PLEA.

H. V. E., of Tracy, Mo., incloses a slip out from a local paper, in which is synopsized some assertions made by JEFF DAVIS in his magazine article on "Andersonville and Other Prisons," and desires to know as to their truth. Here is an extract:

"The official records show the U. S. prisoners held by the Confederates to be 270,000, and those by the U. S. 220,000, and that, whilst in prison, 2,200 Federals died, and 2,600 Confederates. From this it will be seen that the Confederates, with an excess of 50,000 prisoners, had 400 fewer deaths. Had the conditions been the same for the care of these prisoners, there should have been less mortality among the Confederates, yet the South, with a larger number of Union prisoners, with the disadvantages of climate, poorer accommodations and inadequate medicines, displays a smaller death rate.

"The howl of brutality over Andersonville is met by showing that if the exchange insisted upon by the Confederates had been acceded to, the prisoners confined there would have been freed from the ravages of climate; but no, the North, realizing their superiority in numbers, would not concur in this humane proposition and the useless sacrifice of thousands of valuable lives was the dire result. When the North refused this cartel to save the scores dying daily, the South implored the Federal authorities to send medicines, which she did not have, for their men to be given under their direction, and this was rejected."

THE BLADE took the trouble to have investigations made at Washington with regard to the deaths of prisoners of war. The War Records bureau, which has charge of the compilation and publication of the official records of the civil war, states that 29,498 Federal prisoners died in the South, so far as it is possible to ascertain them from the imperfect Southern records; while 26,774 rebel prisoners died in Northern prisons, where the records were kept with the utmost minuteness.

Hence it is plain that not only are the figures unworthy of credence given in the above extract, but that JEFF DAVIS'S comparison had no historical nor critical value.

No comparison is possible because, while the records of the Confederate prisoners in the North were kept with absolute fidelity and accuracy, the investigations of the bureau, in securing all available material and data for Series 3 of the "Rebellion Records," relating to prisoners of war, show that there is no record whatever existing of the deaths of many thousands of Union prisoners in Southern prison-pens. With correct figures on the one hand, and insufficient and hence misleading data on the other, no proper comparison can be made.

Again, the fact must not be lost sight of that the causes of death South and North were entirely different. Northern prisoners died in Southern stockades from lack of food, shelter and clothing, from lack of medical attendance, and from personal ill-usage. The Southern prisoner at the North was well clothed and sheltered, and was furnished with all he could eat of wholesome food. When he was sick he was taken from the main prison and put into a comfortable hospital, where he had the attendance of surgeons and good nurses.

This was the essential difference, and it is all there is in the question. The Southern soldiers were unused to the Northern climate; they were taken from active, free life in the open air, to a necessarily inactive one in prison. It was the climate that caused the mortality among rebel prisoners in the North, and not starvation nor ill-usage. As regards a change of climate, the Northern prisoners had the advantage over the Southern ones. As for the matter of an exchange of prisoners, DAVIS is thoroughly unreliable. He himself was the great obstacle to a proper exchange by insisting constantly on red-tape requirements that would in effect involve enough recognition of the Confederacy to be used as an argument with European nations to recognize its independence, and thus perhaps involve us at the same time in a foreign war. This was DAVIS'S great aim, and the pleas he puts forth are but subterfuges. Neither he nor his sympathizers will ever be allowed to make up the historic record of the war for future generations of Americans.

CORRECT YOUR GEOGRAPHY.

In the days when most of us went to school, the map of Africa was marked conspicuously with a huge range, hundreds of miles long, called the Kong mountains, running parallel to the north shore of the Gulf of Guinea. Many school geographies of the present time have this range marked. Now comes Capt. BINGER, who has made a journey of exploration through that entire region, and failed to find these or any other mountains.

The Kong range was supposed to be the watershed dividing the rivers flowing south into the Gulf of Guinea from those flowing north into the River Niger. Capt. BINGER went southward from the Niger, reached the headwaters of the Baule, its largest tributary from the south, and not many miles beyond he struck the Lahu River, flowing south into the Gulf of Guinea. Later he reached the Akba and other southward flowing rivers. Consequently he passed over the watershed between the two basins, and found no mountains, save here and there a low, isolated peak. The Kong mountain range is a myth.

IF the treaty between this country and Great Britain, which has just been ratified by the Senate, could be retroactive, it would cause the American boodlers in Canada considerable uneasiness. A low estimate of the amount of ill-gotten gain which these defaulters have carried into the Dominion is $10,000,000, and with this sum, secure in the fact that they could not be extradited, these unpunished embezzlers, defaulters, etc., have entered into business on the other side of the St. Lawrence, and are prospering. A correspondent from Montreal says:

"The Bank of Montreal, and nearly every other bank in the country; the Richelieu & Ontario Navigation company, the Windsor, of Montreal, and other hotel companies; the street railway, the Great Transit Continental railway, of Canada, all have on their stock sheets the names of United States boodlers, whose stock proves the estimate of $10,000,000 is rather below than above the mark."

Under this new treaty American boodlers cannot find an asylum in Canada.

THE great danger of a government of the people by the people is from the ignorance of the voting population. A mere knowledge of reading and writing, a smattering of arithmetic, grammar and geography, is not an education in the true sense of that word; for the memory is the chief faculty exercised in obtaining a knowledge of their rudiments, and the child may really have had but little training in the exercise of all the other powers of his mind, especially of his reflecting and reasoning faculties. Hence a knowledge of these fundamentals does not remove the danger to free institutions; for so long as men only think that they think—so long as they are not capable of taking up a question of public policy, of reflecting upon it, and logically working out a correct conclusion, that long will they be led by demagogues and self-seeking men, to the peril of free institutions.

HERE is an idea for posts of the G. A. R. all over the country: Post 185, Lowell Mass., has inaugurated a movement whereby citizens are admitted to the social privileges of the post by the payment of a yearly or a life fee. Already forty leading citizens have been admitted and applications are coming in rapidly. The fees are used strictly for the charitable funds of the post.

TEN DOLLARS FOR CLUBS!

THE BLADE is now offering the highest cash payments for clubs of any of the newspapers of the country. Those who wish to raise clubs and receive a cash premium will please write to us for confidential terms to agents.

Those who desire to earn one or more of the other premiums on our list, should read the following offers:

For a club of 10 subscribers, at $1 each, we will give a Trenton Watch, worth $5—a *guaranteed watch*.

For a club of 15 subscribers, at $1 each, a china tea set.

For a club of 20 subscribers, at $1 each, a china chamber set, or a Blade cook stove.

The tea set, chamber set and cook stove are the same that have already been described in our columns.

As an aid in raising clubs, write to us for all the specimen copies you may need. We will gladly furnish them free.

AS TO FEDERAL DESERTERS.

The country at large will recognize the justice of the proclamation of amnesty to deserters from the army which it is reported President HARRISON proposes to issue. It is not only the deserters from the regular army within the period since the war who are to be the beneficiaries of this act; it is proposed not only to include them, but all those now borne on the rolls of the armies of the Union during the rebellion as deserters. This will be but an act of justice to very many deserving veterans of the Union army. When the Confederacy collapsed, and the actual fighting was over, there were thousands who, recognizing the fact that their work was done, and anxious to return to their homes and resume their usual avocations, did not wait for the formal muster-out and regular discharge, but "mustered themselves out" by quietly going home. These men were technically deserters; in intent and purpose, they were not. They had fought the war through, had done all that in them lay to put down armed rebellion; and when treason was dead, they deemed their work completed. It is but justice that no soldier who fought the battles of his country should suffer for the informality of his anticipating his discharge by a few weeks or months, and returning home without discharge or furlough.

There is a much smaller number of men, however, who were really deserters, who left the army through cowardice, or homesickness, or to secure a chance to "jump the bounty." These do not deserve to have the stigma of desertion removed from their records, while the former and far more numerous class does deserve it. But after the lapse of twenty-five years it is difficult, if not impossible, to discriminate with justice between the two; and the President, feeling that it is better that a few undeserving men shall be beneficiaries by executive clemency than that thousands shall bear the brand of desertion unjustly, now proposes to do justice to the latter far more numerous class, even if he has to include the undeserving scoundrels among them.

OUR TEA SET.

The useful articles we are offering as premiums to club raisers are extremely popular, especially the Blade tea set, and the Blade cook stove. Here are some sample letters from those who have received them:

OSWEGO, KAN., Feb. 15.—EDITOR BLADE:—The tea set received on the 8th all right, nothing broken. We think they are all they are represented, and more too; we are well pleased with the set, the plate and the decoration is fine. Will say to those who wish to get more than paid for their trouble or money, take THE BLADE and their tea set. Our freight to Oswego, Kan., was $1.21—cheap enough.—MRS. C. E. HARLAND.

MISSOULA, MONT., Feb. 11.—EDITOR BLADE:—I received the tea set February 8. It is fully as good as I expected. Freight, $2.75. The set would cost about $15 here.—D. A. SHEPLER.

CANTON, ILL., Feb. 18.—EDITOR BLADE:—Received the tea set a few days ago, and I am more than pleased with it. I would not part with it. Some of my friends say they are proud of it for me, and that they would like to get such a set themselves. We got it 2½ days from the time we sent the names. Freight 75 cents. It cost a great deal of THE BLADE.—Yours, MRS. EDW. WARD.

BURLINGAME, KAN. Feb. 20.—EDITOR BLADE—The tea set arrived in perfect condition, not a piece broken or missing, twenty days after ordering. Freight $1.20. It is good, substantial ware, very pretty and all you represented it to be. I feel well paid for the trouble of getting up the club. Please accept thanks.—Yours truly, MRS. J. W. RULISON.

OSAGE MISSION, KAS., Feb. 8.—EDITOR BLADE:—The tea set of eight pieces was received in good time and in good shape, no break among them. We are all pleased with them, and wonder that you can give such a beautiful premium for a club of fifteen. The freight was $1.15. Wishing you all manner of success, I am yours respectfully,

MARGARET DWYER.

JAMAICA, Feb. 10.—EDITOR BLADE:—I have received my tea set, for which I am very much obliged. I like them very much indeed. Would have been glad indeed to have raised a club for them, if I had been so situated. Accept thanks for them. Yours truly,

MRS. W. B. BROWN.

FOSTORIA, O., Feb. 11.—EDITOR BLADE:—The tea set came all right, not a piece cracked. They are much better than I expected to see, and to say that my wife was well pleased with them would not do the case here justice. Long live THE BLADE! D. W. GIBSON.

NORTH MANCHESTER, Ind., Feb. 12.—EDITOR BLADE:—The tea set has arrived, and we are well pleased with them. They are of fine material and beautifully finished; eighty pieces. Not a piece broken. Accept many thanks, and wishes for success to the dear old BLADE. Yours respectfully, L. W. BAISINGER.

RUNDLES, Pa., Feb. 13.—EDITOR BLADE:—I have received my tea set. I am very much pleased with them. I consider I am very well paid for the trouble I took in getting subscribers for your paper, and think them much nicer than the engraving in your paper shows them to be. Yours respectfully, MRS. JAS. MORTON.

In last week's BLADE there was a typographical error in the letter of J. E. Woodward, sr., Salina, Kan. The freight was $1.33, and not $5, as printed.

We have before us letters of a similar tenor to the above, all praising the tea set, and abundantly satisfied with it, from Cora Stern, Nelson, Neb.; Daniel Murphy, Antwerp, O.; Mrs. W. Streeter, Pike, N. Y.; G. E. Fluth, Brenham, Fla. (freight $1.88); Mollie McIntire, Munhall, Pa.; Hattie E. Briggs, North Dighton, Mass.; Rachel M. Little, Potter Brook, Pa.; Mrs. E. M. Lemon, Allegany, N. Y.; A. Banney, Fostoria, O.; W. D. Jenkins, Erie, Colo.; M. B. Rose, Liberty, Ind.; Wm. Appleman, Kendallville, Ind., and Mrs. Mary Pritchard, Clarksburg, W. Va.

The following tells how well the Blade stove is liked:

MARION, KAN., Feb. 19.—EDITOR BLADE:—My wife has now used the Blade stove two days. She is so much pleased with it I will not part with it. Some of my friends say they are proud of it for me, and that they would like to get such a set themselves. We got it 2½ days from the time we sent the names. Freight 75 cents. It cost a great deal of THE BLADE.—Yours, MRS. EDW. WARD

THE report in the Parnell investigation case is causing considerable trouble to the British ministry. The feeling that Parliament should either expel the accused Irish members or completely exonerate them is gaining ground, and it is hardly likely that the government can successfully carry out the policy of silence which the ministry have evidently adopted. Every day's delay in definitely settling the status of the indicted members is a loss of ground to the government.

THE intense excitement in Canada over the attempt at the abolition of the use of the French language, following the Jesuit estates wrangle, renders it probable that politics in the Dominion will turn upon race and religious issues for a time—which is to say that the battle will be of intense bitterness.

THAT new type for THE BLADE is being made as rapidly as possible, and we shall be able to present our patrons the neatest, best-printed paper in the country in a short time.

THE HOAR-WICKHAM BILL.

The bill, introduced in the Senate by Mr. HOAR, and in the House by Mr. WICKHAM, providing that the election of Representatives in Congress, in the various states, shall be according to the districting at present in force until the new apportionment is made under the census of 1890, is causing much wrath among the Bourbons. It would stop the gerrymanders in Ohio and Maryland, undertaken solely for partisan ends, in an endeavor to steal enough seats in the House to give the Democrats control of that body in the Fifty-second Congress.

The old, old howl of "usurpation," "unconstitutionality," etc., wearies the ears of people. Your true Bourbon, when he gets into a corner, invariably appeals to the constitution. When he has things his own way, he tramples on that revered charter of our liberties with cheerful satisfaction. There are a score of men sitting in the House of Representatives to-day who are sent there through a denial of the constitutional right of their negro constituents to vote and to have their ballots honestly counted. The bill in question, however, is in strict accord with the federal constitution, which, in article 1, section 4, says:

"The times, places and manner of holding elections for Senators and Representatives shall be prescribed in each state by the legislature thereof, but the Congress may at any time, by law, make or alter such regulations, except as to the places of choosing Senators."

This expressly gives Congress the power to make regulations, or to alter those made by the state legislature, with regard to the "times, places and manner" of holding all Congressional elections with the single exception as to the places of choosing Senators. The exception is important, as the fact of its specification in the constitution renders clearer the right of Congress to do all other things it may see fit in the matter of Congressional elections.

The Cleveland *Leader*, in discussing these bills, gives the following interesting resume of a debate in the First Congress, 101 years ago:

"In the House of the First Congress, in August, 1789, Mr. Burke, of South Carolina, offered the following amendment to the Constitution:

"'Congress shall not alter, modify, or interfere in the times, places, or manner of holding elections of Senators or Representatives, except when any state shall refuse or neglect, or be unable by invasion or rebellion to make such elections.'

"Nearly one-half the members of that Congress were members also of the convention that framed the constitution. The amendment was debated at length. Mr. Ames, of Massachusetts, said it was 'essential to a body representing the whole community that it should have power to regulate its own elections, in order to secure a representation from every part, *prevent improper regulations, calculated to answer party purposes only*;' that 'the amendment would tend to destroy the principles and efficacy of the constitution.'

"Mr. Sherman, of Connecticut, remarked that 'the Constitutional convention had been very unanimous' in conferring the powers it was proposed to abrogate, and if abandoned it would tend to subvert the government.' Mr. Goodhue anticipated state action to oppose and thwart the general government, and favored the existing provision, as he wished 'the Federal government to possess every power it necessary for its existence.' The whole doctrine of states rights was fully canvassed in the debate, and at its conclusion the proposed amendment was distinctively rejected and voted down, in large part by the votes of members who also sat in the constitutional convention and knew the purpose of the provision that 'the Congress may at any time, by law, make or alter' the regulations for congressional elections. The proposed amendment of Mr. Burke was so badly defeated that it was never offered in the Senate, and from that day to this no one has ever attempted to change that part of the constitution.

"The constitutional amendment referred to was adopted for use 'at any time' when the General necessary by the General government, and it has been used several times in the past half century. It was given to Congress for the express purpose of preventing just such schemes as the Democrats are concocting in Ohio, Maryland and Tennessee, and to secure a fair and just representation in both Houses of Congress. Were it not for Democratic frauds, violence and other revolutionary Bourbon devices, it might never have been necessary to use that power. But *it was granted to be used*, and this is one of the occassions for its proper use. The nation knew what it was about when it adopted that constitutional safeguard, and there is not and never has been an honest doubt that Congress has supreme control and regulation of all Congressional elections. We may "have been blundering for a hundred years" in not at once putting this power unto full operation, but no blunder was made in conferring it upon the national legislative body."

WHERE'S THE "RISING TIDE?"

The free trade papers never tire of asserting that a revolution is going forward in public opinion in favor of free trade. Somehow this "rising tide" of free trade conversion never shows itself when the time comes. Such an opportunity was given at the election in the 4th Pennsylvania district, to fill the vacancy in the House caused by Judge KELLEY'S death. We were told that the workingmen of the Eastern cities have become tired of the protective idea, and were eagerly waiting for a chance to express their changed convictions at the polls, and the Democrats made a desperate effort to capture that district. They put up the millionaire AYRES as a candidate, in order to be sure of boodle enough to handle venal voters, if any such could be found. The Republicans had not only free trade bluster to combat, but the apathy that always exists at a bye-election.

In 1888, when WM. D. KELLEY was elected, the total vote was 56,510, of which KELLEY received 41,514—his plurality being 9,639. The vote this year was as follows:

Total vote	41,514
Reyburn, Rep.	24,830
Ayres, Dem.	16,446
Reyburn's plurality	8,384

It will be noted that the total vote was nearly one-fourth less than in 1888—which was due to the lack of interest of the people at large in a special election. On the basis of the vote of 1888, the Republican vote should have been over 2,400 less this year, that being its proportional share of the stay-at-homes. But REYBURN'S plurality was only 1,255 votes less than KELLEY'S in 1888—which indicates a relative change of votes in favor of the Republican party. When the personal popularity of Judge KELLEY is considered, the vote for REYBURN is phenomenal, and indicates a Republican majority of 11,000 next fall at the general election. And it also shows that the free trade "rising tide" is but a figment of the Democratic imagination, and that protection stands solid with the toiling masses of Americans. Bring on another rainbow!

SENATOR EDMUNDS'S bill to provide a public school system for the territory of Utah should certainly become a law. It provides for the appointment or a commissioner of schools who, with the governor and probate judge of each county, shall appoint a superintendent from each county. The schools will be non-sectarian and instruction is to be given in temperance, manners and morals, besides the usual public school branches. By educating the youth of the territory the influence of Mormonism will undoubtedly be greatly lessened and the time will be hastened when this one blot upon our civilization will be wiped out.

IF the Missouri Republicans want to bring their state into the foremost political rank, let them sweep the Congressional field this fall. That event would paralyze the Bourbons as nothing has done since Appomattox.

THE Australian system is being applied to nominations of local officers in many Massachusetts towns. This appears to be real political reform.

FARMERS' DEBTS.

We have the following letter, with an urgent request for its discussion in the columns of THE BLADE:

HUDSON, MICH., Feb. 19.

EDITOR BLADE:—Is there no way that can be devised by the government to aid those farmers who are in debt for their farms, to pay off their mortgages, they giving the government security at the nominal rate of 2 per cent per annum, so that the thousands who have mortgages on their farms can save their homes?

The plan is one of the many that have been suggested by agitators, who trade upon the general confusion that seems to exist in the public mind as to the proper functions of a government, and the erroneous ideas entertained by so many persons on financial subjects. First, we may that there is not the slightest probability that the government will ever do such a thing. Second, there is no reason why the government shall single out the farmers for favoritism in such a matter; if it were to go into the business of loaning money at low rates on long time, a demand would go up all over the country that it should loan to hotel men, to merchants, to livery stable keepers, to millers, to carpenters, to mechanics of every sort, to tradesmen in all possible lines of business—to every body, in fact, who might be in debt, or might wish to go into business. A very great many of these persons could give real estate security, as well as can farmers; and their demand would be as just, as reasonable, as that of the farmers who are in debt.

The government has not the money to go into such a wild experiment. We presume, though, the men who are endeavoring to indoctrinate the farmers with this idea are also in favor of the government printing greenbacks for this purpose. There are a great many people who can not master the idea that a greenback is not money, but only a promise to pay money; that it is a debt which must be paid, and that the only value it has is from the ability of the government to pay; and that, were such a policy to be entered upon, the greenbacks would speedily become depreciated, as they were during the war, only still more so.

Last week over 300 business firms or individuals in the United States failed, and their property will be sold for what it will bring to satisfy their creditors. And every week shows a total of from 250 to 350 such failures. Why should not the government step in and loan money to these men to tide over their affairs? Why a plea for the farmer especially? The sober fact is, that every man must depend upon himself, and get over the idea that it is the government's duty to come to his relief whenever he gets in a tight place financially. And we are certain that our Michigan friend, if he studies over the matter carefully, will see that this view is the correct one.

GET A WATCH FREE!

The attention of all readers is directed to the offer on the Trenton watch, in the Publishers' Department, fifth page. It is an excellent watch, and none have so far been returned under our warranty. It is the very best cheap watch in the market. We have several thousands of these watches, which we bought to give away to club raisers. To any one sending us a club of ten subscribers to the Weekly BLADE, and $10, we will send one of these watches free. We did not buy them to sell, but if any subscriber wishes one, we will send him the Weekly BLADE one year, and a Trenton watch, for $5. The watch retails in the jewelry stores at $5. Get up a club; you can earn yourself a good watch in a few hours.

IN anticipation of the fall elections the mugwump journals are now demanding that President HARRISON should speak out on the subject of office-holders participating in politics. They also refer to the high standard set up by Mr. CLEVELAND in this respect. The less said by Mr. CLEVELAND'S defenders as to his action in regard to officer-holders at conventions the better. He made two examples of discipline, one a Republican in Pennsylvania and the other a Democrat in Missouri. The Democrat was suspended, but afterwards reinstated. In the case of the Republican, his participation in a convention was the only excuse for his removal, for he was thoroughly competent and efficient. This matter of office-holders in politics was the most notorious hypocrisy of CLEVELAND'S administration, for it is only necessary to recall as an example the incidents attending the convention of Pennsylvania Democrats in 1888, which was "personally conducted" by Mr. SCOTT, as Mr. CLEVELAND'S lieutenant and confidential agent, and was packed with Federal office-holders, who were virtually told off as delegates, in order to defeat the Randall interest and secure a result satisfactory to the President.

POPULAR interest in Postmaster General WANAMAKER'S postal telegraph scheme has not been excited—largely, we think, because it is not understood. Most people seem to think that it is an innovation and something altogether different from what already exists. The proposition is merely a continuance in a different channel of the system already pursued by the department. Mr. WANAMAKER'S proposition is to make contracts with the telegraph companies for the transmission of messages at a very low rate, say at one cent a word for immediate delivery. The telegraph company would merely be responsible for the delivery of the telegraph message from the postoffice in one city to the postoffice in another. The Postoffice department will then attend to the delivery of the message. This will be done by local carriers, according to the system now provided by the special delivery stamp upon letters. This would be of especial advantage to the money order department of the postal service. It is calculated that if each money order office in the country sends but three telegraphic messages a day it would amount to a good paying business for the government. It would also be a great convenience, as orders for cash would be telegraphed by a private code and at very little cost, with a certainty of immediate delivery. The telegraphic companies take no interest in it because it does not provide for the purchase of their lines at an enormous profit to themselves.

IT shows a sad state of things in Florida when her Senators will attempt on the floor of the Senate to justify the killing of a deputy United States marshal, as Messrs. PASCO and CALL have done. It is to be hoped that this murder will be thoroughly investigated and that those who were concerned in it will be given the full penalty of the law. When the people in Florida and in the other Southern states are made to feel the power of the general government; to understand that federal officers and federal laws must be obeyed and respected; and that the intimidation and killing of objectionable officials will be followed by the prompt punishment of all engaged in that occupation, then there will be some peace in that section of the country. The whole South must be made to respect the general government, even if it shall be necessary to again thrash it into submission.

THE next territory to be admitted to statehood will probably be Wyoming. Her people have adopted an admirable state constitution. They have an area which would make them eighth in the list of states in point of size, and a sufficient population, which is rapidly increasing. They have well-administered finances, great wealth, marvelously attractive mineral and agricultural resources and all the elements to found one of the greatest of states.

A FALSE PLEA FOR RUM.

Several friends have mailed us clippings of an article that is floating through the newspapers, attributed to the *Revue Scientifique*, of Paris. It purports to be the result of inquiries made by the British Medical association to ascertain the average longevity of drinking men and total abstainers. This report is said to have been based upon the record of 4,234 deaths, and gave the following averages of age attained in each class:

Total abstainers	51 years 22 days
Habitually temperate drinkers	63 years 13 days
Free drinkers	57 years 59 days
Excessively intemperate drinkers	53 years 8 days

After giving this table, the article referred to above goes on as follows:

"It appears from these statistics that the shortest-lived people are the total abstainers. Next come the excessively intemperate, then the free drinkers, and then the habitually temperate drinkers. In other words, these figures make a very strong argument for temperance, but are flatly opposed to total abstinence. They show that moderation is more useful for securing longevity than either extreme, that of habitual drunkenness or total abstention from the use of alcoholic stimulants. They demonstrate what every scientific student of the question believes, that alcohol has its proper economic uses just as much as food has, and that it is the abuse and not the use of it which leads to all sorts of evils.

"No one can deny that the alcohol-using nations are and always have been the superior nations of the world. This does not mean that alcohol is the cause of national greatness or superiority, but that the demand for alcohol in some form is a natural demand, and that the nations which have recognized it are the most intelligent and consequently the most powerful and progressive nations on earth. The fact that some form of alcohol is in general use in all the civilized countries of the globe does not prove the degradation of those countries, as the prohibitionists argue, but rather the universality of the demand for alcohol and the propriety of its use in moderation."

We are skeptical as to the value of the statistics themselves, and the deductions drawn from them. They are diametrically opposed to the views of the best medical authorities of America, as well as of a long list of the most eminent names in the profession in Great Britain. The preponderance of evidence is overwhelmingly on the other side. So well recognized and established is the fact that the drink habit shortens life, that many life insurance companies reject risks upon the lives of persons addicted to drinking to any extent. The result attained above—that total abstainers are the shortest-lived—is simply ridiculous. It might be, were the persons considered all invalids; but such a result can hardly be reached in any legitimate investigation.

That alcohol is poisonous to the human system, and that its effects are directly proportioned to the amount taken and to the frequency of the potations, is a fact so well established that it can not be gainsaid—the above table to the contrary, notwithstanding. It has certain uses in medicine, though they are few, if any, of those which can not be accomplished by the use of other drugs. If used at all, it must be used under the direction of a physician, to get whatever benefit may be possible for the invalid, and to avoid any of the injurious effects which follow its too free use.

There is no argument in the plea that "the alcohol-using nations always have been the superior nations of the world." In point of fact, all nations have used alcohol, either in wine, or in fermented or spirituous drinks. The only great people in the world's history who did not use it were the Saracens—whose religion, Mohammedanism, strictly prohibits it, and who obeyed the mandate. Their history was a most brilliant one. They were the masters of all Northern Africa and Egypt, Arabia, Syria, Asia Minor, Spain, Turkey in Europe, and they even thundered at the gates of Vienna. The decline and fall of their power cannot be attributed to abstinence from alcohol, any more than the decline and fall of any other great nation in the world's history is to be attributed solely to its use. But their history stands as a proof that the assertion that the alcohol-using nations were always the superior ones.

Nor is the position of the Prohibitionists honestly stated in the extracts given above. The vast majority of proof is to the effect that the use of Rum is entirely unnecessary to any healthy person; that the effect of its excessive use are pernicious to the individual, and an injury to the people at large; that thousands of men are made drunkards every year by the saloon, which has no real reason for existence; and that, as Rum is unnecessary to any one, and the evils

WHAT THE BOYS SAY

ABOUT THE PENSION QUESTION.

Another Batch of Letters to the Blade on This All-Important Matter.

THE letters still pour in. If we were to devote every line of THE BLADE to them, we could not publish all that arrive. Hence we make a selection, cut them down all we can, even to a couple of lines, and publish as many as we can find room for. All those given below were received before February 5—hence you can see how far we are behind. *Make your letters short;* give your full name, with company and regiment; tell us what pension legislation you favor, and your reasons—and don't be offended if your letter is cut down, or not published at all.

Some Brief Opinions.

NANNAS, KAN.—I think a service pension is what is needed.—W. A. KOONS.

ARMINGTON, ILL.—THE BLADE is right; it is the service pension bill we want.—J. S. V.

ELIZABETHTOWN, KY.—Give every honorably discharged soldier a pension of $12 a month.—J. M.

HARTFORD, IND.—A general service pension bill, separate from the invalid pensions.—A. P.

SEYMOUR, NEB.—I am in favor of pensioning every one that served six months or more.—W. H.

FLORA, O.—"Dependent" don't sound well. Pension every soldier who served one year or more.—S. B. M.

PEARL DEPOT, ILL.—Uncle Samuel, whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do with all thy might!—E. C. S.

LINWOOD, MICH.—Give them red hot shot, thick and fast, till they do something for the veteran.—J. M. B.

TEMPERANCE, KY.—I want every old soldier and friend of the soldier to rally to the cause of justice.—D. F. M.

MARIONVILLE, MO.—Simply ask the Republican majority to fulfill the promises made in its last platform.—A. J. R.

HAMPTON, IND.—This government should give to every man who shouldered a musket a liberal pension.—J. W.

PARK CITY, MONT.—I think it is time Congress did something. The service pension bill is good.—J. M., Co. I, 85th Ill.

YOUNGSTOWN, O.—Instead of harping on the surplus, pay it out in pensions to the soldiers.—J. M. V., Co. C, 7th W. Va. C.

GRINNELL, IOWA.—The service pension bill is the only fair and just bill that has yet been introduced.—T. G. P., Co. A, 37th Ill.

CENTRAL CITY, COLO.—I think it is the least the government can do is to give the men that saved the nation a liberal pension.—M. H.

HOWARDVILLE, N. Y.—Congress should pass the dependent bill, and then the service pension bill.—M. L., Bat. H, 1st N. Y. Lt. Art.

SHERIDAN, NEB.—If Congress does not do something for the soldiers at this session, we will remember them with our vote.—W. H. B.

JANESVILLE, IOWA.—A service pension law, giving to each soldier in proportion to his term of service.—L. R. WOOD, Co. A, 2d Ind. Cav.

LE MOYNE, O.—No reduction of the revenue until our pension legislation is passed, and close up the ranks for a fight until that is secured.—B. E.

SOUTH BLOOMINGVILLE, O.—A pension is a just debt which the government owes to every soldier who has an honorable discharge.—J. O.

EDDYVILLE, IOWA.—Pension every soldier who served three months or more, giving him $12 or $15 a month, for the age of 80 years.—W. H. C.

CENTER RIDGE, KAN.—If our lawmakers interested in the passage of a way of relieving disabled soldiers it is high time they were about it.—H. B., Co. D, 10th Ohio.

WATER FLATS, N. Y.—If a service pension is granted, it should be on the penny-a-day play, giving to each soldier one cent per day for the time he served, per month.—J. H. H.

BRIDGEFIELD, IOWA.—I am an old soldier I have always given my pay recompense until all the old swords are beaten up and the heirs of the former owners are made happy.—H. S. H.

——.—There has been too much pension legislation of a private character. As Rob Burdette says, "Comrades, let's kind of age the thing up a little and agree upon something good for all."—J. M. B.

——.—Every man who went to the war should have pay for his services, though money can never restore the sons to their parents, nor fathers to their families, nor health to the soldier.—B. B. B.

TURNBACK, MO.—Justice demands that the government equalize the bounties. All soldiers enlisting between the years 1861 to 1864 should receive the same bounty for the same service.—J. B. D.

ORISTONIA, PA.—A soldier who came home, saved his money, and accumulated a little of this world's goods, has as good a right to a pension as one who spent his money and never tried to save.—J. P. M.

HIGHLAND, PA.—I would like to see all the boys who faced the music and saved our country get a pension, and I would like to have the greenback at 40 cents.—R. H. C.

DODGEVILLE, ILL.—I think to pension all soldiers at $8 per month, whether disabled or not, would be right. Give all alike their back pay, as they have been so long delayed. Equality was contracted while in the service.—T. W. G., Co. A, 80th Ill.

SMITHFIELD, ILL.—Congress should pass a per diem pension bill, giving it to all soldiers, and the same to be in addition to those now drawing a pension for disability. This is the kind of a bill is advocated here among all the soldiers, and many others.—J. J.

VICKSBURG, MICH.—I served from 1863 through the war; was promised $13 per month in gold, or greenbacks at a discount of 35 to 50 per cent, and consider that every soldier should be paid the difference between the greenbacks and the gold.—C. H. A., Co. K, 3d Mich. Cav.

BANCROFT, MO.—I know of soldiers drawing good large pensions, who lost they were twelve months in the army, and eleven months of that time in the hospital. Nothing short of a service pension will reach the class of men who did the fighting; and they want it right now.—L. C.

——.—I am not a soldier, but believe in a service pension. Time is fast disabling the old vets. Our government owes its existence to them, and it is but just that it should repay them and they remembered when "life was a beautiful rainbow that spanned" their young manhood.—B. C. L.

PHILADELPHIA, ILL.—I am a pensioned soldier. I received no bounty simply because I did not serve two years. I think if a man was discharged on account of wounds or disability from disease contracted while in the service, he ought to have, and is entitled to, a bounty.—T. M. C.

HAMBURG, IOWA.—What we want and must have is a fair and accessible invalid pension law that will save us the $25 attorney fees, and to date back to discharge; and a service pension bill that will cover the deficient pay we should have received long ago.—W. S. B., Capt. Co. B, 21st Ind.

——.—The time has come when we must cry all together for a service pension bill. I don't like to give up the old Republican party yet, but now or never, I don't want to be called a pauper in order to get a pension. Twenty-five years ago I was in Libby prison. Now I want justice only.—J. C.

ADDISON, W. VA.—My father served three years in the Union army and has never received a pension. He is now 68 years of age, and if Congress does not soon pass a general pension law he, like a great many others, will have joined the "silent majority" and beyond the need of a pension.—L. A. T.

SAN ANTONIO, TEX.—My husband was a Union soldier, and was wounded and died three years ago from the effects of the wound, and yet I have been unable to procure a pension, simply because I can't get such proofs as they want. Now I am 55, with three sickly children and not able to support ourselves.—A SOLDIER'S WIDOW.

UNION, ORE.—I think it is an insult to the old soldiers to read the congressional report how the table shows the increasing some general's widow's pension to $2,500 per year. Could that body look over these United States and see the poverty that some old soldiers endure, I think they would be ashamed, and try to relieve those disabled ones.—M. H., Co. B, 1st Ark.

ERWIN STATION, MISS.—The service pension bill is the best for the ex-soldier. I have been trying to get a pension for six years, for disease contracted in the service, but fail on account of hard work in the present laws. I favor their repeal, and the enactment of a law that will give a service pension to every Union soldier of the late war.—EX-SOLDIER CO. B., 49th La.

WESTMORE, KAN.—I think every old soldier should have a pension, to commence at the age of 60; and all over 50 to have back pension to that date. The old veterans serenely deserve it, and are certainly entitled to it. Can any one think for a moment that any man could have served two, three or four years in the late war without injury to his constitution?—W. P. S., Co. E, 24 Ark. Cav.

FEEBLES, O.—I don't think that any law will give as much satisfaction generally as the per diem bill. It gives every soldier a pension in proportion to the amount of service. And that is right undoubtedly; for a man to draw the same who only served 30 days as one that served four years would be unjust and unwise, and would incline to increase short terms of service in the future.—B. R., Co. K, 20th Ohio.

The Long Roll is Beating.

MERTILLA, KAN.—We want our dollar to be worth as much as the bond-holders was in the 60's; we want no dependent pension bill. We want a service pension equal to the demands required of us who met treason and the rebel hordes. Boys! the long roll is beating. You all know what that means; fall in! fall in! THE BLADE is sounding the call now, as it has for many years past, in our behalf. Let the response come from all along the line. Make your demand now, from a government that is able to pay and make good every obligation it has made from the 60's to 1890.—W. F. N.

Must Do It Now.

MT. STERLING, IOWA.—I have voted the Republican ticket since 1856, but if they don't help us some I will never vote it again. I am going to help those that stand up to their word.—E. A. B.

No Dependent Bill.

JUNCTION, O.—I believe in the per diem bill first, last and all the time. I don't believe in the dependent bill for two reasons: First, it makes the soldier a pauper; second, it don't hit the ones who did the work. The soldiers that saved the country are left out in the cold.—J. H. G.

See if Your Papers are all On File.

——, PA.—Referring to the delays in the Pension office, I would advise all claimants to have the files examined. Perhaps all that is necessary would be to call the commissioner's attention to this matter, that he might take some measures to protect the evidence by registering it or otherwise.—R.

Don't Desert the Ranks.

SHELDON, MINN.—Now, boys, blow the Pension bugle until Uncle Sam gives us all a pension; for not long will he have us to pension at the longest. Don't say you will leave the old Republican ranks and join the Democrats; they won't give you a pension. I should be sorry to hear of a veteran leaving our ranks for the Democrats.—L. C.

The Per Diem Bill Just.

SALESVILLE, O.—There is but one just and equal way for a service pension, and that is what is called the per diem bill. Then every man would get according to the time he served, and that would be right. Every reasonable man ought to be satisfied with that, I am sure I would be, although there were men who served longer than I.—J. L.

Pension the Aged.

HUNTINGTON, W. VA.—I think ever soldier who is 60 years old should have a pension of from $8 to $15 per month regardless of disability; and if he is disabled from manual labor to any extent by disease, whether said disability was contracted in line of duty or since, he was contracted in line of duty or since, he should be pensioned, regardless of age, to assist him in keeping the wolf from his door.—J. A. D.

A Protest.

LOGANSPORT, IND.—Come, boys, it won't do to weaken, as I see some are doing—to even think of voting the Democratic ticket. Don't you know the party is against us in all legislation, and always will be? If this Congress does not do something for us, there are men in the Republican party who will. Let us stick together and hang to the flag of our nation.—J. H. M.

Army Nurses Need It.

BEREA, KY.—While I duly appreciate what our government is doing and has done for the benefit of the soldiers who saved the Union from disruption, I feel that there is one class of persons who sacrificed fully as much as the regular soldier, but have hitherto been neglected, viz: hospital and army nurses. Could you not, through the columns of THE BLADE, advocate their claims to be considered by the present Congress?—S. V. S.

Better Than Ever.

BUTLER, IND.: I am happy to see the loyal old BLADE coming to the front, as it always does in everything that's right, and spread its banner to the breeze in behalf of the boys who wore the blue. I was asked, the other day, "is THE BLADE as good as it used to be?" "Better! it is devoting more space to the comrades." If it is devoting more space to the comrades, we would have papers like THE BLADE the Fifty-first Congress would never leave Washington until it had passed a service pension bill.—D. D. D.

A Democrat Talks.

AVILLA, KAN.—I think the government has treated the veterans shamefully. It looks to me as if Congress would be very glad to have a large per cent of the old boys answer to roll-call in the great beyond, before it asks them to pass any pension laws that would be just and equitable to the soldiers. How great that force was the battered and diseased bodies of the survivors tell; but this service pension should be in addition to any granted for disease or wounds. Any other course would deprive the wounded or diseased soldier of any benefit resulting from his service, even if he had served nearly the entire time of his enlistment before injured. A service pension should be for service, simply. Length of such service to be considered, as proposed by the "one cent a day bill," without any regard to anything the soldier may be entitled, under existing laws, paying for wounds or disease.—C. J. F., 2d Mich.

A Financial Argument.

LARNED, KY.—In regard to pensions allow me to suggest that while we agitate liberal pension laws as but an act of justice to our country's brave defenders, why not also ask it on the grounds of relief to the country, in putting more money into circulation? Does not our commercial interests demand more money in circulation? How or in what better way can our surplus, or revenues be paid out and distributed among the people than by making our veterans the distributing point? Why not urge the passage of a law repealing the limitation on arrears of pensions?

Is there any justice in giving arrears to A and refusing them to B and C because A filed his claim two days prior to that of B and C? Let us hear from the comrades on this point.—P. C. H., Co. E, 10th Ills., and Co. H, 45th Iowa.

A Debt of Honor.

ELDRED, KAN.—Uncle Sam's present unprecedented vitality is traceable to the boys in blue, who sacrificed four years of the best part of their lives, crippling themselves physically and financially, and impairing their usefulness for future usefulness, to prevent his becoming a "cripple for life." Days in which they might have been accumulating a competency for the future, were sacrificed in vain, so far as the financial phase of this question goes, unless Uncle Sam smiles upon them soon with the right kind of sunshine. This is a debt of honor that the United States is more than able to pay, and ought to pay at once. Yet in this busy, proud and ungrateful world, where people do not see alike, such questions have to be agitated. I am gratified, therefore, at seeing the grand old BLADE calling the attention of these who are favored to the necessity of their duties in this matter.—SOLDIERS' ADMIRER.

Distribute the Surplus.

CRESTON, IOWA.—I think you have struck the key-note in taking up the cause of the ex-soldiers. In my opinion, the pension bills prepared by the G. A. R. pension committee ought to have the precedence in Congress. As a committee of the G. A. R., I think they have formulated such bills as they thought would do the greatest good to the greatest number. Now, as to that great bugbear, the surplus: I would like a Democrat to tell me of a better way to put it into circulation than to give every old soldier a liberal pension. It would thus go into the channels of trade, and be distributed all over the country. Soldiers are not a class that hoard their money. For instance, when I get my pension, it is distributed in a few hours to my grocer, to my dry goods man, shoemaker, hardware merchant, carpenter, etc., and the same way with all others that I know—that it goes into circulation, not only doing the soldiers good, but the whole country.—J. E. Y., 24th Iowa.

Solid, Sound Sense.

WALWORTH, N. J.—I am in favor of a per diem bill to those who do not get a pension now, and cannot get one. I will be satisfied with the G. A. R. bill of $8 a month. I see from talking with my comrades here that $8 a month would be a God-send to most of us. We must be reasonable in this matter of pensions. Some are clamoring for $16 a month and more bounty, and some want the earth and the fullness thereof. This you cannot have just yet; but we may have a reasonable pension if we will unite on one bill. The service bill of the G. A. R. is a modest bill, and it will be the guide to Congress in this matter, for it is the only bill that is sanctioned by a majority of the ex-soldiers, as an recognized body with an official head. We must bring all of our pressure to bear on one point, if we intend to accomplish anything in this direction. We fritter away our strength by having too many bills going at once. Let us as one man support the per diem bill of the G. A. R., and we will be successful in the end. The men about here who kick on the per diem bill are the men who went out late in '65 as substitutes and received more money than a man that served four years, and most of them are now drawing a pension, for they had a hospital record.—H. A.

That Word "Dependent."

GREENVILLE, ILL.—While the bill reported by Senator Davis, chairman of the Senate committee on Pensions, is liberal and would be satisfactory, so far as it goes, if it were not for that objectionable word "dependent." It seems to have an odor of pauperism about it that is not pleasant to an old soldier who is temperate, industrious and full of spirit and the pride of an American citizen and soldier. Whatever he receives he would like to have as due him as a debt due him, rather than as a charity bestowed, on account of poverty, however poor and dependent he might in fact be. If Senator Davis could so modify his bill as to leave out that offensive word and frame it so as to apply to all soldiers at the age of 60 years—who served three months or more, who have an honorable discharge, whether dependent or not, it would, it seems to me, be a unobjectionable and satisfactory. What objection can be urged against it? Let the present law concerning disability pentions be modified and simplified, so as to save red tape and enable a soldier to get some part of what is due him within an ordinary life-time.—W. M. E.

Discussion of the Matter.

ELLSWORTH, KAN.—The first legislation that is demanded is in the interest of those soldiers who have become unable to earn a living and yet are dependent upon their own labor for their support and that of their families. The dependent pension bill should, and I think will, pass the present Congress. I see by the *Century* that in June, 1888, there were nearly 32,000 soldiers on the pension rolls at the rate of $6 per month. You think of the 32,000 paupers, who shouldered their muskets and left home and all the comforts of life and bared their bosoms to the storm of battle, and who have become disabled, either through wounds or disease, being paid by the government they saved the pitiful sum of $24 per year as a compensation for all this!

The arrears of pension law expired by limitation in 1890. Every soldier who has made application since then has had to prove disability or wound caused in the service and then prove its continuance every year since, before he can procure a pension. No one that I have ever heard pass an opinion on the bill says but says, that if the soldier has to prove disability all these years then justice demands that he should have pay for same. It follows then that the arrears pension law should be passed. Then I think every soldier should be the difference between the value of gold and greenbacks during the time of service.

The G. A. R. Pension committee have recommended what they call a per diem service pension bill, a part of one section reads as follows, viz: "That the rate of pension for such service, shall be at the rate per month, of one cent for each day's service rendered in said army, navy or main corps of the United States. Provided, however, that in each and every case, where the service was less than 800 days, the pension shall be at the rate herein established for a service of 800 days." I can't understand why the G. A. R. committee, or the executive, should have incorporated passage of such a law, unless the short term men were the ruling power in those bodies. Will any one say that under a per diem service pension law, that the soldier who served 90 days (and perhaps never reached the front or snuffed the smoke of battle) shall draw the same pay as the one who served 800 days? Does any one claim that that would be justice? If there is such a law passed (one to benefit all the soldiers) let it be according to the term of service, or as nearly so as practical.

If the G. A. R. bill was amended to read 200 days service instead $80, it would probably be acceptable to the majority of the pensioners, as well as more justice to all the old soldiers.

Now I think all these claims should be allowed if the finances of our country will warrant it; and it seems to me we have no reason to doubt the good intentions of the Republican party as yet. I believe they will, just so far as they can, carry out the pledges they made the soldiers in their platform in 1888. Let us at least leave our threats till we see, but still continue to present our just claims.—H. W. GARNETT, Co. I, 13th Iowa.

MARRIAGES IN GEORGIA.

The Blacks are More Inclined to Wedded Life Than the Whites.

There were 16,500 marriages in Georgia during 1889, says the Memphis *Commercial*. The negroes show a greater percentage of marriages to their numbers than the whites, though there is a greater population of whites, which runs their aggregate 146 above that of the blacks. The marriages of either race increase according to the density of population; that is, in counties largely white there are more marriages per thousand than in counties where the other race predominates, and the same is true of the blacks.

A difference in favor of the country districts exists in matrimony. Among the negroes in the black belt, and especially along the coast, where they live upon fish and produce of nature, it would appear as if there were not a 15-year-old female unmarried. Inland the marriages are not so many, but the number keeps up surprisingly. In the turpentine country, where hundreds of negroes come from North Carolina, the marriages would indicate that the whole population had gone out of single blessedness. In North Georgia, which is the center of the white population, the marriages grow in number, but on a conservative basis.

The question of increase naturally comes up in this connection. While the number of negro marriages does mean more births, yet the mortality among negro children is alarming, and the percentage of white children who reach maturity is much greater. Atlanta leads the state in the number of marriages proportional to its population, while Savannah lags at the other end.

When You Read the Good Book,

The *Hebrew Standard* explains the following biblical terms:

A gerah was a cent.
A cab was three pints.
An omer was six pints.
A shekel of gold was $8.
A firkin was seven pints.
A farthing was seven cents.
A talent of gold was $13,809.
A talent of silver was $538.30.
A bin was one gallon and two pints.
Ezekiel's reed was nearly eleven feet.
A cubit was nearly twenty-two inches.
A shekel of silver was about fifty cents.
A mite was less than a quarter of a glass.
A piece of silver or a penny was thirteen cents.
A Sabbath-day's journey was about an English mile.
An ephah, or bath, contained seven gallons and five pints.
A day's journey was about twenty-three and one-fifth miles.
A hand's breath is equal to three and five-eighths inches. A finger's breadth is equal to one inch.

This Beats the Faith Cure.

Paris has a new device for the treatment of nervous diseases. It is in the form of a little cherry box, about five inches square, above which project two shafts, one within the other, sleeve and arm fashion. On each shaft is balanced a black bar nine inches long, an inch wide and a quarter inch thick, edge up. By clock-work in the box these ebony arms or bars are made to revolve in opposite directions. Six little round mirrors are placed on each side of each bar. The patient is seated in a chair in a dark room, facing the machine. An electric light, or any bright light, is concentrated on the black arms of the machine by means of a convex mirror placed behind the patient, and then the arms are set whirling. The patiet watches them whirl. The motion and the flashing lights operate on the nerves through the eyes. Patients are put to sleep by this means, and extraordinary cures accomplished. The explanation of the effect of the whirling arms and flashing lights is that they change the habit of the brain.

Paying for a Delicate Attention.

Wife—Dear George, how does the smoking cap suit you that I presented you with at Christmas?

Husband—I am delighted with it, dearest. It was very thoughtful, very kind of you to give me such a present.

Wife—The bill for it has just come in. Will you pay for it now, or shall I tell the man to call again?—[Boston Courier.

A Burnt Child Dreads the Fire.

Jawkins—I wonder why old Guffy never married? He looks so melancholy when the conversation turns on woman that I am afraid there is some sad romance connected with his youth.

Hogg—So there is; he got nipped so badly in a breach of promise case that he could never look at a woman since.—[Texas Siftings.

The Arabs' Noisy Table Manners.

The Arab regards it as good manners to make as much noise as possible while eating, and a traveller ignorant of this custom, and therefore sedulous to devour his meal as silently as need be, has been asked "whether he was a beggar, that he munched his victuals as if he was ashamed of them."

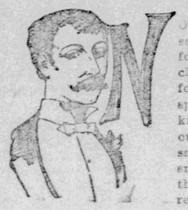
Weak Nervous Men

Send at once for sealed particulars free of the common sense home treatment, which will speedily restore you to complete vigor and manhood. No electric nonsense, no stomach drugging. Address, Albion Pharmacy Co., Albion, Mich.

DAME FASHION'S APRIL SURPRISE.

She Will Show Us New Things in Every Line — Yellow and Lilac Hold Sway — New Points.

[Written for the Blade by Ellen Osborne. Copyrighted, 1890.]



NOW we are reasonably well informed as to the clothes in store for us in the spring, and the knowledge is calculated to make sad the heart of small woman, for the large plaid reigns.

In ginghams, in woola and in silks there are plaids to the fore. The tartan did not disclose its possibilities until it was given to us in ginghams. Now we have it in dark green and blue checks, in blue and green "Gordons" and in the brighter Fife mixture. We have it also in markings never dreamed of by the clans, pale yellow and lavender in bars at least eight inches wide, corn color and gray, a frosty blue and gray, gray and white, flax blue and cream, pink and cream.

Broad stripes are noticeable and wide ribbon bordering. A summer dress of a delicate heliotrope tinted China silk is made with a simple full skirt about which runs at the level of the knees, a wide band

SPRING VISITING GOWN.

of white lace insertion and below this a bold ribbon stripe in pale terra cotta shadings. Other silks of similar design are woven with pale yellow or a shadowy grayish blue for the ground color with lace insertion and ribbon stripes of gray or a very deep blue. White silk is shown on the counters with black velvet ribbon bands woven in the grenade. It may be said, however, that the fencers were no more decolloette in costume than many of New York's 400, who air their charms nightly at opera or ball.

"Are you ready?" asks Miss Englehard. For reply the girls spring to the center of the room, and their foils swing together with a shrill ring.

"Look out for the chandelier," sings out the referee; but both girls are past all consideration for the chandelier. With tight pressed lips and flashing eyes they begin a struggle in which science and finger figure in about equal proportions. The few spectators are watching the dangerous game with breathless interest, and nothing is heard but the thud of the girls' feet on the carpet. Thrust and parry, attack and retreat, follow each other so quickly that it is almost impossible to follow the fencers' motions. Suddenly Miss Bell lunges forward with a vicious grunt. The end of her foil strikes Miss Hilliard squarely on the collar bone and glances upward like a streak of light. Where the weapon has struck is a long streak of blood.

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Miss Engelhard then refuses to allow the contest to proceed without the use of face masks. Both girls don them reluctantly and again step to the center of the room. The second round is more than vicious than the first. The foils hiss through the air like lightning, and the arms and shoulders of the combatants are streaked with red welts. In this bout Miss Bell scores three points and Miss Hilliard one. Both girls are on their mettle in the third bout, and neither scores a point. Although they are tired and panting like pouter pigeons, they fight with all the strength and science known to the art.

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"Now shake hands, girls," says Miss Engelhard to the tired amazons.

"No, I won't," exclaims Miss Hilliard.

"Pooh!" remarks Miss Bell.

Then the respective seconds took the belligerent little mites of femininity over into opposite corners and pump fighting ethics into their ears for ten minutes, at the end of which time the two girls turn away their heads, shake hands, and the duel is ended.—[N. Y. Press.

COURT LIFE IN TUDOR TIMES.

Wealth in Amazing Stores of Silver and Gold Plate.

MRS. A. S. Green in the *Speaker:* The brilliant court life of the later Tudor times was a new thing in English history. In earlier days it had not been the fashion for the great land-owners to forsake their estates and live at Tower Hill or Shoe Lane with a following of 100 or 200 gentlemen in livery and white frieze, lined with crimson taffetas, and to spend two or three times their yearly income in the merry life of dicing, card-playing and hunting in Gray's Inn Fields, Islington and Highgate, and in buying dresses fine enough to adorn court pageants and processions, where the greatest nobles of the land accepted the honor of bearing the queen's litter.

The country noble or gentleman of the time of Edward IV. and Henry VII had other business and other ambitions. He was not, indeed, a home-keeping man; he had to be away at French wars, or fighting on the Scotch border, or leading levies hither and thither to put down a rebellion or to set one going, or to make a raid on his neighbor's property. But whether he was a successful soldier, or "a good Cotswold shepherd," or perhaps "a good Coventry lawyer, or a wealthy judge, he remained a true provincial in heart and in interests. Booty was to be had in France, even in Scotland; there was none in London. On the contrary, a journey to the capital needed the one thing that nobles and landowners never had—ready money in the purse. If a country lord had to attend parliament, a supply of oats and corn was carried for the horses "to save the expenses of his purse;" his wife managed the big household and estates in the country, and from London an army of servants rode backward and forward continually to fetch provisions from fields and ponds and saltingtubs at home, so that he never need go to the market or to the baker to buy for money.

It was in the provinces that the noble kept his true state. If his journey lay through any town, all the bells were set ringing "to give notice of the passage of such eminency," and the burghers stood to watch him pass in his robe of scarlet, twelve yards wide, with pendent sleeves down on the ground, and the "furrur therein set," worth perhaps £200 or £300 of our money, while his attendants came after, anxiously holding up with both hands out the filth of the mediaval streets the wide sleeves that trailed at their sides.

The great oak chests of the country houses were piled up with splendid robes of cloth of gold, figured satins, damask, and silk, and velvets, and fine cloths were heaped together with rich furs of marsen and beaver. Sir John Fastolf had 35 coverings for his head—hoods of satin, russet, and velvet, straw hats, hats of beaver lined with damask gilt, and the like, to suit his various robes. Chains of gold of the "old fashion" and the "new," collars of gold covered with "roses and the suns" precious stones, women's girdles of cloth of gold harnessed with gold, or with silver gilt worked by famous foreign makers, made fully as brave a show in the fifteenth century as in the one that came after.

But the real wealth of the nobles lay in their amazing stores of gold and silver plate. Fastolf had laid up in his treasure tower and in the safe rooms of monasteries vessels that weighed over 16,000 ounces, besides the plate in his butler's pantry. We read of ewers, and goblets, and platters of gold; great chargers of silver, weighing 200 ounces or more; a flagon of silver of 35 ounces; others with gold verges and enameled chains about their gilt basins, with antelopes; gilt cups like fountains, with enameled flowers; salt-cellars like towers; "basins of 180 ounces, covered with silver of Paris touch and over-gilt, pounced and embossed with roses, and with great, large enamels in the bottom, with certain beasts embossed standing within a hedge of silver and gilt upon the said enamels;" great gallon pots having the edges gilt and wreathed with poppy-leaves; gilded goblets with columbine flowers and the like. At the funeral of a lady of Berkeley, early in the sixteenth century, the plate was brought out to give "a drinking" to the mayor of Bristol and his brethren, "and I thank God," wrote the steward, "no plate nor spoons was lost, yet there were twenty dozen spoons." Such was the wealth upon which the spendthrifts of Elizabeth's court "fed and feasted" till ruin overtook them, and on which "Jack of Newbury" and his fellows prospered and laid field to field.

One person in each locality can earn a good-sized bag of gold at work for us during the next few months. Some earn $20 a day and upwards, and all get grand wages. No one can fail who follows our directions. All is new, plain and easy. Experience not necessary. Capital not required; we start you. Either sex, young or old. You can live at home, doing work all your time or spare time only. One person has earned $50 during past few months and you can do as well. No room to explain here. Full particulars and information mailed FREE to those who write us at once. Better not delay if you want work in which you will be sure of earning a large sum of money every month. STINSON & Co., Box 612, Portland, Maine.

THEY CROSSED SWORDS FOR LOVE.

Fencing Beauties Fight a Duel for a Pittsburg Young Man.

Miss Louisa Hilliard and Miss Amelia Bell, both members of the King's Fool Opera company, met in a private room in the Metropolitan hotel yesterday, and battled for twenty minutes with all the fury of amazons for the affection of a mutual admirer. The weapons were fencing foils. Blood was drawn, gowns were torn, sharp adjectives were exchanged, and altogether the affair was a feminine cyclone. It is said that the mutual admirer was appraised of the approaching battle, and left for the west on an early morning train. One of the seconds at the "fencing bout" said that the name of the young man was Merrill, and that he was a resident of Pittsburg.

Miss Hilliard was the first to arrive on the battle ground. She was accompanied by her sister, Miss Mollie Hilliard, and Miss Ada Walker, who acted as her seconds. Miss Hilliard was dressed in a maroon directoire costume, which later on suffered severely at the hands of her antagonist. She picked up one of the foils lying on the center table, bent it nearly double, hummed French songs, and began to pace the floor in a nervous way that suggested gore and carnage.

After about half an hour's wait the bell rang, and Miss Bell sailed into the room with her seconds, Miss Bolders and general retinue, consisting of Miss Lou Nichols, Miss Mabel Nichols, and a young man with an incipient moustache, who evidently wished himself safely out of the whole business. The principals sized each other up in a cold, scrutinizing way, but said never a word. The seconds bowed in a stately, foreign fashion, and preparations were at once made for the encounter. The services of Miss D. T. Engelhard had been enlisted as referee and general preventer of hair pulling. Miss Engelhard insisted that the combatants should wear wire masks, but the girls refused. They were not at all afraid of losing eyes and things. They wore no false bangs, to be strewn to the four winds of heaven by the foil of an adversary. Both girls are brunettes, with black eyes, and both are plump and pretty.

Finally Miss Englehard bade the girls get ready. Notwithstanding the cool, offhand way in which they proceeded to put themselves on a war footing, the *Press* man was constrained to turn away his eyes and commune with nature while the preparations were being made. It may be said, however, that the fencers were no more decolloette in costume than many of New York's 400, who air their charms nightly at opera or ball.

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But the real wealth of the nobles lay in their amazing stores of gold and silver plate. Fastolf had laid up in his treasure tower and in the safe rooms of monas-

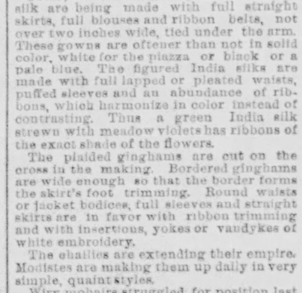
SPRING HOUSE GOWN.

Pretty little afternoon gowns of China silk are being made with full straight skirts, full blouses and ribbon belts, not over two inches wide, tied under the arm. These gowns are oftener than not in solid color, white for the piazza or black or a pale blue. The figured India silks are made with full lapped or pleated waists, puffed sleeves and an abundance of ribbons, which harmonize in color instead of contrasting. Thus a green India silk strewn with meadow violets has ribbons of the exact shade of the flowers.

The plaided ginghams are cut on the cross in the making. Bordered ginghams are wide enough so that the border forms the skirt's foot trimming. Round waists or jacket bodices, full sleeves and straight skirts are in favor with ribbon trimming and with insertions, yokes or vandykes of white embroidery.

The challies are extending their empire. Modistes are making them up daily in very simple, quaint styles.

Wiry mohairs struggled for position last summer. This season they will probably win their way. They are being cut with kilted skirts or in directoire styles.



THE SPRING HAT.

It is long since anybody has taken the trouble to invent so many new blues. Blues have not been worth inventing. But now we have at least a half dozen striking varieties, which are pretty and novel, the most successful being the "Mandarin." Another blue which appears both in wools and wash fabrics is the color of the flaxflower. "Saxe" is a pale blue which is fashionable, and "sapphire and "Orient" are bright blues.

The decadence of green has been predicted, but it is offered to us in astonishing variety. Last week averaged, I think, at least one new green per day—brownish, whitey and sage greens, as well as true greens, brilliant in tone. There are deep greens which incline to yellow, and "Moscovite," which is a greenish blue.

A deep gold

The Household.

MISS EMILY S. BOUTON . . . . EDITOR.

HOME TALKS.

THEIR AMUSEMENTS.

Provide What Is Suitable for Their Parties.

IN these days of ladies' parties, when the brains of the mothers of our land are apparently taxed to their utmost capacity to provide novel entertainments and to furnish unique prizes for their guests, is there not danger of too little thought and care being given to the amusements of our young people?

Not the little tots in the nursery, nor the older ones who have left school, are meant, though, frequently, in the latter case, a parent's watchful eye would not be at all amiss) but the boys and girls who are at that critical age, when, though having barely reached the boundary line which separates childhood from the next stage in their lives, they are all too ready to overleap the remaining barriers, and pose as young ladies and gentlemen.

Lacking experience, and having had but few opportunities for observing the society manners of their elders, their entertainments are only too likely, if not guided by a skillful hand, to degenerate into a rude and noisy revel.

One reason for this state of affairs may be that the young creatures don't know exactly what to do with themselves, and their naturally lively spirits, unduly excited by unnaturally late hours, and the unwonted stimulus of contact with so many minds in a similar condition, are apt to run away with them. We all know that older people do things under the exhilerating influence of some peculiarly congenial social surrounding that calm after-moments recognize as unwise and unbecoming. Most of us have felt that there have been times, even in our grown-up years, when the gentle admonitions that were familiar to our childhood would have been most excellent reminders of the proprieties. Perhaps we should not, as then,

"Cold pausing Caution's lesson's scorning,
Frisk away,
Like schoolboys at th' expected warning,
To joy and play."

If, in maturer years, this forgetfulness sometimes comes, what can we expect of these youngsters whose hearts are throbbing with the joy of existence, and who have all the pains and pleasures of experience to meet?

RECENT REMINDERS.

This matter has been borne in upon me with more than usual strength recently by one or two happenings. In the one case a party of merry boys and girls were gathered together for the evening. Most, if not all, were in their teens, just at the time when something to absorb their whole attention was necessary. The principal amusement was dancing, and pretty indeed was the sight of the bright faces and graceful movements of those who moved to and fro to the sound of the music. Unfortunately there was then, as there usually is, a number of boys who did not dance, and no other amusement had been provided for them. It became rather monotonous to sit around watching the good times their friends were having, and one after another wandered off up stairs into the dressing room. Here a pack of cards was produced, and some cigars, so that later on the room was blue with smoke which those young boys who sat there dealing the cards and playing the games like old gamblers, were puffing without thought of the wishes of the hostess.

Possibly there was not one word said which their mothers and sisters might not have heard. Possibly they were doing no more harm than their young companions down stairs, if measured by the present hour, but the influence upon their future was far worse. They were withdrawn from the company with whom they had been invited; and were turning an apartment in a private house to which they had been invited, into a bar room. They were gaining no social advantages or the training to easy and graceful bearing that the mingling with their boy and girl friends in the presence of the hostess would give, and I do not believe that they had even what they would call a good time.

"It is guid to be merry and wise,"

and it is something to learn how to be so while youth lingers.

These boys were not the ones most to blame. The fault lay largely with the entertainers. Their duty was not done when the invitations were given out and one kind of amusement provided. It is always safe to calculate that in any considerable company there will be a number who either have not learned to dance or do not, perhaps through diffidence, care to do so. Remembering that youth is restless, and can find small pleasure in watching the "guid" time others are having, some other entertainment should always be carefully provided. There are amusing games, other than cards, that would enlist their interest, especially if the hostess took some personal supervision of the matter until they got fairly underway. The room to which they withdraw should not be entirely out of sight of the rest of the company, but rather where, without interruption, its restraining influence could be felt.

ANOTHER INCIDENT.

Recently, at the house of a lady who had invited a party of boys and girls for her daughter, the boys who did not dance went off by themselves, and by and by got into a quarrel among themselves which came near ending in a free fight to the imminent danger of the pretty furniture and the bric-a-brac scattered around the room. Disgraceful, say you? Yes, and these boys were not street gamins, either, but the children of people who are "in society," and desire to teach them fine manners. It was simply because the boys were not looked after, and "Satan found some mischief for their idle minds."

I have been told of one or two parties of these youngsters when, before the evening was over, both boys and girls grew boisterous, and in the dining-room "just for fun" threw eatables at each other, snatching them from the plates as a fine practical joke. The next morning the carpets were found literally matted with what had fallen and been stamped upon. At midnight, these same hilarious boys and girls wandered off in couples homeward, to find, in nine cases out of ten, the house dark, and the father and mother gone to bed, and sleeping, probably, as peacefully as if they knew just where that young girl, hardly out of pinafores, or that boy, yet in his teens, were, and what they were doing.

There is such a thing as being overly watchful of the young, of keeping up an irritating espionage of their actions, that does more harm than good. There is a far more common carelessness as to their actions, a freedom from the loving restraint that guards while it never intrudes upon the individuality—which should be respected in a child as in its elders—that is culpable and dangerous.

"I feel," said a thoughtful mother to me the other day, speaking of these things, "as if I could never trust my children out of my sight, for if other people's boys and girls behave so, how can I tell what mine will do, when away from the restraint of my presence?"

Keep them children as long as possibly. Do not give them grown-up social freedom until they *are* grown, and have been trained to know what the laws of good-breeding demand. Keep careful guard, without being offensive, over their amusements, but see that that they are provided with what will entertain without demoralizing, especially when, as in the cases I have mentioned, their companions are enjoying what they have no sympathy with. Under such guidance they will reach maturity with pure tastes and a love of morally healthful pleasures.

Emily S. Bouton.

ABOUT ENTERTAINMENTS.

It would seem that the ingenuity of the modern party-giver had already been taxed to the utmost to provide novel features for an entertainment, and that resources in that direction must be well nigh exhausted. But occasionally some enterprising individual hits upon a new idea in decoration, or evolves a new scheme for the selecting of partners, or a fresh excuse for the giving of prizes.

At a recent entertainment the favors were fastened to strings, radiating in every direction from a huge spider web of wire, each string being sufficiently long to admit of winding around some article of furniture, the favor, of course, being out of sight. Each guest, selecting a string, follows its twistings and windings until the favor is unearthed, and her place at the card table is thus determined. This idea may be utilized in various ways to suit the character of the entertainment given.

A new use to which the transposition of words may be put, is having the names of dishes on bills of fare transposed, and the giving of prizes to the successful guessers. This idea may be carried out in the transposition of titles and composers on a musical programme, the guessing to be done between the numbers.

A novelty in the serving of refreshments is to have a tempting lunch placed upon the sideboard or table, to which guests may help themselves as they feel inclined. The following of this fashion will be a great relief to many a hostess who has not trained servants, and also to those who wish to give a distinctively informal air to their entertainments.

Of course, care should be taken to have the sideboard replenished with fresh viands, and napery, so that it may at no time present an untidy appearance, but this may be easily done, with a little oversight.

FANCY WORK AND HOUSE DECORATION.

MORE ABOUT CELLULOID FOR DECORATING PURPOSES.—Since writing for THE BLADE, I have received so many favorable letters I feel welcome to come again. I think THE BLADE family ought to have the benefit of the uses for celluloid, and wish my friend "Carrie" and also "Clara," who so kindly wrote to me would write to the HOUSEHOLD. The described letter cases, glove boxes, blotting pads, whisk broom holders, and many other fancy articles which I know would be very pretty. Before getting their letters I made Xmas cards by cutting it in fancy shapes, and getting a genial shoemaker to punch holes in it so I could run baby ribbon through. They are real ornamental. I like little bells, buckets, etc., for decorating them. Cut the celluloid shape of face, dresses, etc., as you like, by way of pattern. Very delicate looking. I got a doll 2½ inches high, bisque, with hair and can move its arms. It is carrying a pail, and looks so cute, on one corner of a large card. The card should be padded with wadding and covered with satin; ribbon fringe makes a nice edge. Cut very evenly one edge off very close to the edge, fringe, and if your ribbon is an inch wide, it will not have a nice fringe. This is too late for Xmas and New Year, but will make nice Easter or birthday cards.

I wonder as I read the kind letters what they who wrote them are like; some are short and business-like, others put in a few extra words, prompted by impulse, to encourage, while yet others wrote long, interesting letters. I picture to myself the home they live in, their own characters even, until I feel as though I know them. Here is one from some young girl whose dainty fingers are often making something to use in the house; here, I know, this is a young woman with a cosy little home she delights to make and keep neat and tidy, and so on *ad libitum*. But my sympathies reach out especially for those to whom the challenges when young, and now must try all the harder to find time to develop the latent talents, for it is often there, even if you have never tried. Just the fact that you want to should encourage you to know you will surprise yourself if you only try to see what you can do. Never, never think you are too old. In painting, the drawing is more necessary than color to beginners in that study, and a good many who take up the latter try because they can't draw. I know our methods by which anyone can learn to draw. They are distinct and separate; sometimes one is to be preferred, sometimes another. I draw my own stamping patterns; the transfer is easy, if you know how. Sometimes I have taken pictures from children's books for my copies; they are nice for some decorative work. But I say don't content yourself with nothing but that kind of painting. Make something that will be worth keeping a lifetime. You will have more pleasure in it, and it is not so much more difficult. One thing is, study. Take a copy and study it carefully, not only a few minutes; an hour or more is not too much if it is worth painting.

Half close your eyes and see the masses of shade. A picture is stronger and has a better effect if the masses are generally together. I like one with the dark mostly in the center and gradually blending till the edges are right. That is for a small scene and it looks attractive. Then don't use too small a brush. A flat brush about an inch at least should be used, unless the the picture is very small, but for finishing one often needs a small sable. Let me say here, that a very small picture is harder to make than a large one. I used to hesitate about beginning anything of any size, thinking if I couldn't do a small one, I couldn't make a large one. Now I hate to make the small ones for they are much more difficult to handle.

Some of you may not know that there should be a great deal of care in buying paint. Some colors are fugitive and others injurious in other ways. In blue, for instance, get Antwerp, or if you feel you can afford better, get Cobalt, it is the best, and don't use asphaltum. Use Van Dyke brown. The lakes are to be avoided, such as yellow lake, crimson, scarlet, purple, etc.

How many of us think of attending the Fair in 1892? I wish we had a small emblem or badge to wear to indicate that we belong to the "Blade Household," and when we meet we could get acquainted, if agreeable to both. There are some whose society I know I should enjoy. If we had some sort of the kind we would often meet at fairs, traveling, etc. I hope some one will suggest something that will be suitable.

Will some one please tell how to paint on bolting cloth?—MRS. T. D. MORRIS, Seward, Neb.

ROMAN KEY.—Some one asked for directions for working Roman Key on checked gingham, several weeks ago, and as I have not seen it answered, I will give it. If you wish to work an apron, hold the left side next you; begin next the hem and work seven rick squares towards the top. Then work six to the right, making even with the last one of preceding row; then four towards the hem, making five with the last one of preceding row; then two to the left, making three in this row; then two to the top, two more to the left, four towards the hem and six to the right, which completes one key. Begin the next one by working six towards the top and six to the left, etc.—MRS. I. N. ROGERS, Florence, Oregon.

PICTURE FRAMES.—I have a new design in picture frames I wish to offer to the HOUSEHOLD readers. Take a shuck horse collar—can be made by any of the colored people from the south—cover with plush, satin, silk or any beautiful color. Any lady skilled with needle can make whatever suits her fancy. Have a glass cut just to fit the neck of the collar, and place the picture as you would in any frame. For a few cents you can have a frame you would not exchange for the finest to be had anywhere.—AGRI SCOTT, Rosencath, Yazoo county, Miss.

BASKET PATTERN FOR RAG CARPET.—In choosing warp get two colors. Brown and white, lye color and black, or lye color and blue are prettiest. In warping have first a dark then a light thread for 16 threads, then 1 light, 1 dark and so on for 16 threads more, changing after every 16 threads. Now weave a thread of warp between every rag until you have in six rags, then put in one rag without, then a thread of warp between again, and so on, when you will have a block or check carpet. The rags are sewed bit or miss. I have just finished a very pretty one, made of rags raveled from an old carpet.—NELL.

Send 25 cents to Miss Emily S. Bouton, Toledo, O., for "Fancy Work and House Decoration." It will tell you how to make any number of pretty things.

KNITTING AND CROCHETING.

Knitting Abbreviations—k, knit; p, purl or seam; p 2 tog, purl two together; n, narrow; s and b, slip and bind; t t o, throw thread over; b, bind; o, over; sl, slip; to, make.

Crocheting Abbreviations—l, loop; s c, single crochet; d c, double crochet; ch st, chain stitch; ch sts, close chain stitch; d ch st, double chain stitch; p, picot; r c, ribbed crochet; c s st, crossed treble stitch; sh st, shell stitch; o sh st, open shell stitch; tr, treble; sh c, short crochet.

NARROW EDGE—Cast on seven stitches, knit across plain. First row—k 2—o 2—p—n—k 2—o—k 2; 2d row—k 2—p 1—k 1—o 2—p—n—k 2; 3d row—k 2—o 2—p—o—k 2—o—k 2; 4th row—k 2—p 1—k 2—o 2—p—n—k 1; 5th row—k 2—o 2—p—n—k 3—o—k 2; 6th row—k 2—p 1—k 3—o 2—p—n—k 2; 7th row—k 2—o 2—p—n—k 6; 8th row—Cast off 3—k 2—o 2—p—n—k 2.

SHOULDER CAPE.—Crochet.—This is a light pretty cape and is something different from the common double-crochet or shell-stitch which has been so commonly used for capes. This is called cluster or scallop-stitch and is pretty for shawls also. Take Saxony wool and medium-sized bone hook. Make chain 76 stitches for neck. First row—miss 3—1 d c in 4th stitch—*—1 ch—miss 1 st—1 d c in next st—repeat from star to end of row; 2d row—2 ch—*—wool over hook—raise a loop, drawing it out to 1 inch in length, under first 1 ch loop—repeat from star twice—wool over—draw through all 6 loops on hook together—wool over—draw through 2 loops and make 1 ch—wool over—raise a loop under next 1 ch—repeat from star to end of row—turn; this makes 37 picot rolls; 3d row—3 ch—1 d c in 1 above first roll p, taking up both the front and back loops—*—1 ch—1 d c above next p—repeat from star—increase 6 times by working an additional 1 ch, 1 d c above the 7th, 19th, 25th, 31st and 37th roll picots of the previous row—turn; 4th row—2 ch—work in roll picots as in 2d row—(43 picots); 5th row—3 ch—1 d c in loop above first-roll picot—1 ch—1 d c in each picot, increasing in same place as before; 6th row—2 ch—1 roll picot on each picot to end of row—(49 picots in this row). Repeat 5th and 6th rows, always increasing 6 times in the d c row, until the cape is the required size. Knot fringe on lower edge or make an edge making two rows of picots, then deep shells all around and collar of the same edge. Put ribbon in the neck.—MRS. J. C. MEINS, The Dalles, Wasco county Oregon.

CORRESPONDENCE.

LITTLE THINGS.

Then let us watch these little things
And so regard each other,
That not a word or look or tone
May wound a friend or brother."

This stanza, committed by my pupils today, has taken up its abode as if it meant to stay with me; and what a blessing it would prove if we would all follow its teachings.

It is the little rills trickling down the mountain's side that form the river. The litte flakes falling one by one that make the snowdrifts. And also the little acts of kindness that enlarge and fill the heart with love and sympathy for our fellow man.

If we would realize the good a kind word will some time produce, let us look at the life of John B. Gough. It was a kind word that saved him, not only from a drunkard's grave, but also from committing suicide. Let us in our imagination picture the good and great influence of that one word. How many lives were rendered useful, which otherwise would have proved a failure, and how many homes where the demon drink reigned supreme, were once more made happy. Oh, let us not be so reluctant to offer a helping hand and a pleasant word to the fallen. The coming year let us "bear one anothers burdens," and live not alone for ourselves, but strive to brighten other lives, over which the twilight shadows seem to hang so heavy; from which every ray of light seems to be excluded. If we will pause a moment in our struggle to reach the summit of the mountain, we will find many a sad life which we can brighten, many a weary one which we can take by the hand and assist over the rugged path. And when twilight shadows deepen into night we may feel that our gleanings during the harvest time have not all been in vain.—ETHNIE.

NO, GIRLS, DON'T DO IT.—I most heartily approve of the remarks of "Colorado Cactus," as to the tremendous risk incurred by girls and women who marry intemperate men with the hope of reforming them. It is true that women sometimes exhibit a love and an unselfishness fairly Christlike in purity and sincerity, even throwing their lives into the balance, if, perchance they may save an erring one, without a thought of the possible consequences to themselves. But I believe that nine times in ten an awful sacrifice is made, as useless as it is unavailing. I know a case where a young Christian lady some 20 years ago very strangely became infatuated with a young man, a drinker, and the end was, I think, one of the most ominous were of the lowest sort. She became engaged to him. Her friends pleaded with her and endeavored to restrain her from such a suicidal step. No, she was going to marry him and reform him. She married him—but to this day she has not reformed him in the least. She has drank the very dregs of the bitter cup, eking out a miserable existence, her husband a saloon keeper, and home the resort of his debased companions, without redeeming influences of any kind. This is only one instance of many that might be named, of the terrible sacrifice and suffering which young women bring upon themselves by having more zeal than wisdom, and which might be avoided if they would more seriously consider the probable consequences of attempting this kind of reformation.

Very many of those who become habitual drinkers, and finally drunkards, were once the noblest specimens of manhood, with warm hearts, generous impulses and high aspirations. Many of the names that are highest on the scroll of fame fell before this invidious foe of humanity. Many of the finest young men in the world, out of the very kindness of their hearts, have been led into drink by friends, and by evil men who had no other motive than to destroy them. It is not the narrow, stingy soul, but the large, generous fellow that is often the most easily led into this downward road. Hence the attempt to save these souls is a most worthy object, and well worth many sacrifices. But in view of the deadly grip of the drink habit when once formed; in view of the millions of wives of drunkards, whose lives have been a series of tortures, whose very heart strings have been torn and snapped by long years of cruelty and misery; in view of countless children whose bodies and souls have been shriveled by the blight of this curse, who have been educated in vice and crime by fathers whom drink has robbed of every virtue, it would seem that no woman would dare marry a drinker to reform him. Do all you can by kindness and exhortation to save the intemperate, but be sure they are thoroughly converted before going further. In order to impress every reader of these lines with an adequate conception of the satanic malignity of the demon alcohol, I quote a few words from an address by a noted orator:

"Intemperance breaks the father's heart, bereaves the doting mother, extinguishes natural affections, blasts parental hopes and brings mourning age in sorrow to the grave. It makes wives, widows, children, orphans, parents, childless, and all of them paupers and beggars. It defames benevolence, hates love, scorns virtue and slanders innocence. It burns up men, consumes women, detests life, curses God and denies heaven. It invites the father to butcher his helpless offspring, helps the husband to massacre his wife, and the child to grind the parricidal axe. It worships fatality, kills peace, ruins mortals, blights confidence and murders the soul. It is the son of villainies, the father of all crime, the mother of abomination, the devil's best friend, and God's worst enemy."

These words ought to be painted in blood and posted over the door of every saloon in the land. They deserve to be engraved upon the memory of every man and woman who care for the welfare of home and society that they may be nerved to wage a relentless warfare against the liquor traffic.—J. W. STONE, Toledo, Ohio.

ABOUT LETTER WRITING.—I wish the older persons of experience would write more for young girls. I have gained a great deal of information from letters in the HOUSEHOLD. I am a young girl living with my parents in the Rocky Mountains, where there is not much company. I have quite a number of correspondents, which keep me from getting very lonesome. I enjoy getting a good letter, and always try to write one. When I get a letter I always wait until I have a good opportunity to answer it, not too long. I do most of my writing at night. I take the letter I have received and read it all over carefully, then I express my opinion on the different subjects mentioned in the letter received, and am especially careful to answer all questions that are asked me. Then I write all the news that I think would be of interest to the one I'm writing to.—TOPSY.

INQUIRIES.

A BLADE mother, happy in the possession of a new boy, wants a name for him. If members of the HOUSEHOLD will send postals, each with four names on it, she will give a year's subscription of THE BLADE to the sender of the one from which she chooses. Address cards to "THE BLADE," with Household marked in corner.

Mrs. C. B. Marsh, Corydon, Warren county, Pa., wishes to correspond with "Frances E." regarding the cultivation of "Gladiola."

Will some one tell me how to cure my chickens. All I can see ails them is that their comb turns white and they live about a week, except in bad cases, then their comb is black. An early answer will greatly oblige—PRESS.

Would like to know how to make a pretty and cheap lamp shade.—A MOTHER.

Will some kind reader of THE BLADE please send me a remedy for chilblains?—WILLIAM GRIFFITH, Lebo, Kan.

I wish some one living where what is known as white root grows would address me and I will return postage.—J. A. TRACKLER, McComb, O.

Mrs. Wm. F. Kortright, Amherst, Col., Box 72; Mrs. S. J. Pray, Cleveland, Kan., and Miss Mattie Bateman, Red Creek, Wayne county, N. Y., would thank any one who would send them music, either vocal or instrumental.

Will some member of the HOUSEHOLD let me know through its columns of some good way to take fly specks off from pictures without injuring the picture?—FLORA E. CRAVER.

L. M. Emery, Cambridge, Lane county, Pa.; A. E. Clark, Wyandotte, Mich.; Rachel L. Clark, Palmyra, Ind., and Kate E. Grover, Hamlin, Brown county, Kans., would be pleased to receive recitations, either of poetry or prose, suitable for school exhibitions.

Bertha E. Johnson, Del Rey, Ill., Iroquois county, and Mrs. Charles Crowell, Lyons, Burt county, Nebraska, will be very grateful for flower or garden seeds that may be sent them.

Will some one send directions for knitting pillow shams?—MRS. ELIAS RUSSELL, Dupont P. O., Lane Co., Kas.

Will the sister who has Sabbath school papers which she wished to dispose of, be so kind as to send them to a teacher who is not supplied; that is to MRS. HATTIE BOWDLE, Shawnee Mound, Henry county, Mo?

Will the person that heads the piece "The Other Side," and also signs herself "Mae Catha Enter," please give me her full address?—GEO. J. PRIESS, box 104, Grand Rapids, Ohio.

Will "Aunt Olive" send a stamped envelope and a statement of her case to MRS. E. W. MILLIS, Rapid City, South Dakota, box 190.

Two young ladies of Hartford, Michigan, would like young lady correspondents.—MERTIE SPAULDING, EVA SHERBURNE.

Will some of the readers of the HOUSEHOLD tell me how girls living in the country, and going to school, can earn a little money?—DAISEY DEANE.

Would like very much to know some one's experience in using an incubator, and how to procure one or a catalogue.—F., C. L.

Will some one send me the verses of "The Indian's Lament?"—MRS. E. W. MILLIS, Rapid City, South Dakota.

ANSWERS TO INQUIRIES.

Mrs. Amanda Paxton had better get a Christian scientist to care for her child, or, better still, study the science and overcome the conditions yourself. It is probably caused by weak nerves and nausea, it seems to me that the time has come when every woman should take possession of her own body and care for herself and family, and overcome their ailments with care and confidence in Christ's truth.—MRS. A. M. BROWN, 182 Lincoln avenue, Aurora, Ill.

"Greeny."—If you were introduced to a person by a mutual friend in whom you had confidence, there would be no impropriety in asking them to call, although it is best to wait until you are sure they will be a desirable acquaintance before doing so. You should never speak of a person as a "party." Call them a "lady" or a "gentleman," as the case may be.—ED.

MRS. A. A. R.: Good nurses are always in demand. If you write to any reliable physician in Kansas City you could obtain the information you desire.

Do any of the readers of the HOUSEHOLD know how to conduct a mending bureau in a city. Would be thankful for any information.—M. S.

You would need to take a room in a convenient part of the city, and advertise in the daily papers that you are prepared to do all kinds of mending at reasonable rates. As there are, in all cities, many young men who have no homes where they can have such work done for them, and working women who have no time for it, you could doubtless make such a venture a success, if your work was well done, and your prices moderate.—ED.

"Gypsy," Princeton, Iowa:—We have a Sabbath school up here in the mountains, and are too poor to supply the children as they should be. Anything will be thankfully received.—MRS. W. F. SCARBROUGH, Solon, White Co., Tenn.

Please say to "Mrs. B. F. C." who wishes to know how to prevent cream from foaming, that if she will keep her milk in a warmer temperature, while the cream is rising, (say about 65 degrees, or warm enough so that the milk will commence to sour in 36 hours), and have the cream warm enough when commencing to churn, 65 degrees in winter and 60 in summer, she will have no such trouble. Keeping the milk too cold will also give the cream a bitter taste. I think that every one needs a thermometer in butter-making, so there need be no guessing about the temperature.—A SUBSCRIBER.

Hominy, "Reader of THE BLADE" wants to know how to make hominy without the use of wood ash lye. Measure the number of quarts of corn to be cooked; soak over night in cold water; then put on to cook and add one tablespoonful of good baking soda for each quart of corn. Boil until the black eyes will wash out. Wash thoroughly in cold water; then cook until tender. This method is less work and makes sweeter hominy than the old way.—BACHELOR COOK.

Mrs. E. B. L. says that the use of any kind of chewing gum will prevent seasickness.

Box 215 received too many letters to answer only through THE BLADE. They succeeded in finding the little girl a place.—ZELA.

Was the society, "King's Daughters," ever organized?

The order of the "King's Daughters" was organized and now numbers 100,000 members.

RECIPES.

TOMATO SOUP.—Take 8 ripe tomatoes, or half a can, and put to boil in 2 qts. of soup stock with a bunch of herbs. When done thicken with a little flour made smooth in water. Then strain, season with butter, pepper and salt.—L. E. E.

SOAP RECIPE.—Here is a soap recipe for old subscriber that I have taken from THE BLADE several years ago: 7½ lbs. sal soda, ½ oz. borax, 8½ oz. sulphate of soda, 2 oz. ammonia, dissolve in 4½ gals. of soft water, then add to the above 8½ lbs. good bar soap. Heat it all together and turn into a tin pail; cut in cakes the size of the common bar soap, put clothes to soak over night or first put the dirty clothes in a tub; put in a cake of your soap in a boiler of water, let it get scalding hot turn it on the clothes; do not have the clothes packed tight in a tub. In the morning wring out and put in a tub of hot water; rinse and rub if necessary—I do not think it will be.—Rinse and hang out.—MRS. G. W. RAWLINGS, Calhoun, Ill.

POPCORN BALLS.—One gallon of nicely popped corn; take ½ pint of molasses or sugar; boil up once, then grease the hands well with butter, pour over the corn, stirring continually and make in balls.—MYRTLE.

TO REMOVE INK OR OTHER STAINS.—Take the article before it is wet, and put it into pure rain water about milk warm, free from any kind of soap which sets the stain, and let it soak one hour or more. For ink stains, soak over night, then wash and boil as usual. It all comes out.

CUCUMBER PICKLES.—This is a good way to put up cucumber pickles so they will not get soft. Pick the cucumbers in the evening and pour boiling water over them, and let set till morning. Then wash carefully, scald a jar or keg, and sprinkle salt on the bottom of it, then a layer of cucumbers and a layer of salt. Cover with a cloth and put on a weight. If by morning there is not a brine on them, put on more salt. Every time you put in more cucumbers re move the cloth and wash it in cold water.—NELLIE.

CAROLINA CAKE.—2 cupfuls sugar and ½ cupful butter. Cream together, 4 eggs, (white of 1 for frosting), 1 cupful sour cream, 3 cupfuls flour, 1 teaspoonful soda.—ANNIE G., Dawson, Pa.

Our Young Folks.

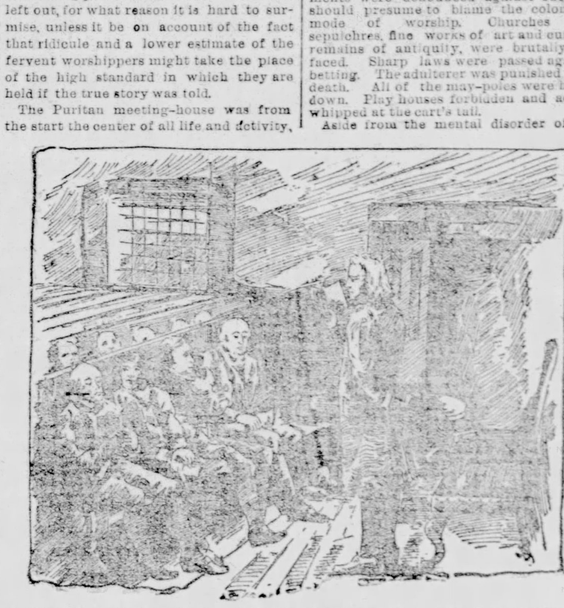
GOING ARMED TO CHURCH.

How Children Were Treated in Colonial Times.

[Written for the Blade by F. T. R. Copyrighted 1890.]

THE colonial church-goer affords no end of topics for the pen of the historian and yet one rarely reads anything about them. Here and there we find fragmentary accounts of how the people went armed to church, formed processions as they wended their way through the woods, and like primitive customs, all brought about by fear of wolves and Indians, but the most interesting phases and incidents have been left out, for what reason it is hard to surmise, unless it be on account of the fact that ridicule and a lower estimate of the fervent worshippers might take the place of the high standard in which they are held if the true story was told.

The Puritan meeting-house was from the start the center of all life and activity,



of all moral, political, military and social affairs. Austerity, alike of church and members, was evident everywhere. The palisades, the armed sentinels, the huge, shingled, unpainted extesior and the great square, wooden pews and enormous oak beams and braces upon which the gallery freemen piled up their hats during service, all signified aggression and severity, more even than it demonstrated that civil government was vastly secondary to ecclesiastical laws and it is not to be wondered at that there were many dissenters among these very dissenters from the English yoke.

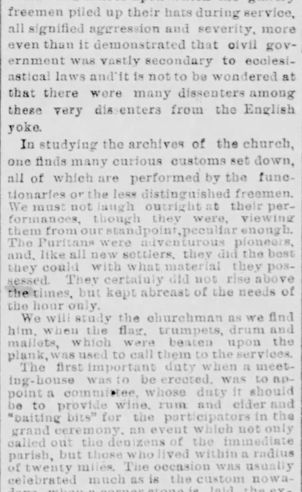
In studying the archives of the church, one finds many curious customs set down, all of which are performed by the functionaries or the less distinguished freemen. We must not laugh outright at their performances, though they were, viewing them from our standpoint, peculiar enough. The Puritans were adventurous pioneers, and, like all new settlers, they did the best they could with what material they possessed. They certainly did not rise above the times, but kept abreast of the needs of the hour only.

We will study the churchman as we find him, when the flag, trumpets, drum and mallets, which were always in readiness upon the plank, was used to call them to the services.

The first important duty when a meeting-house was to be erected, was to appoint a committee, whose duty it should be to provide wine, rum and cider and "baiting bits" for the participators in the grand ceremony, an event which not only called out the denizens of the immediate parish, but those who lived within a radius of twenty miles. The occasion was usually celebrated much as is the custom nowadays when a corner stone is laid, the exception being that the rum is not drunk on the premises. After the church was boarded in then came a meeting to decide over the question of aisles, that is "shall there be one grand aisle from the entrance to the pulpit, or two aisles which separate the body?" Sometimes [the members were so divided upon this matter that another church was started and the goodly worshipers made content.

Another trouble arose when the divine clergyman objected to negroes and Indians standing in the aisles during services, but this was settled by building a "pen" in one corner, and in this the lowly, who wished spiritual food, could find solace. So many subjects inter on discovered that they were sinners indeed, and so expressed themselves, desiring to be saved and taken into the Lamb's fold. Here was still another difficulty to be gotten over. But the wits of the minister and elect found a way out of it, and the slave finally allowed "half covenant," which means that he could be a member of the church, but could not partake of communion. Think of it, ye modern worshiper; think of such a condition prevailing among men who sought in the wilderness "freedom to worship God."

Perhaps the most cast like characteristics which our fathers displayed occured at the "seating of ye meeting-house," and the laws relating to it were as follows: Four men were elected as "seaters" to determine where each person should be seated, which rule applied to "age, state and dignity." "The town agreed and voted, that the fore seat in the front gallery shall be equal in dignity to ye 2d. seat in ye



body of ye meeting-house, the fore seat in ye side gallery, equal in dignity to fourth seat in ye body of the house; second seat in ye front gallery and third seat in same equal in dignity to fifth seat in body of the house" and so on. The age was fixed by calendar, estimate by rate book, but dignity—there's the rub—it is safe to presume that the rate book assisted the "seaters" in that perplexing matter.

Well, we will suppose the church-goers all seated. What next comes up to trouble the religious dictator and his deacons? Back we go to the records and find the town appointing "two who on the Lord's day shall walk forth in time of God's worship to take notice of such as either lye about the meeting-house, without attending to the words or ordinances, or that lye at home or in the fields. They shall be prosecuted." "All boys must sit on the three pair of stairs in the meeting-house, including those of the pulpit. One constable is to keep out dogs, and women must keep their faces veiled;" for the mere order in their church a man was appointed "that wholly tended to keep people from sleeping with a short clubbed stick, having at one end a knob, and at the other a fox tail, with which he would stroke the women's faces that were drowsey, and with the other would knock unruly dogs, and men that were asleep." The offenders of the law of the church were published as follows: "Mary Oliver, for neglect of public worship, be publickly whipped and a cleft stick put on her tongue for ½ hour for slandering elders." Another non-attendant and slanderer gets "pillory, ear cropped, imprisonment for 12 months, branded F on right cheek, and pays a fine of £30."

Too much money could not be expended on finery; "it set a bad example for those who could not afford it," and undoubtedly took money out of church box. Perhaps the moral was essential, but how incongruous the law seems, when we read the case of Nicholas Noye's wife, Hugh Marshes's wife and William Chandler's wife, prosecuted for wearing silk hoods and scarfs, but are discharged, proving their husbands to be worth £200 each. Then follows the case of "John Hutchin's wife" for the same offense, discharged, upon testimony of her being brought up above the ordinary rank. Church cast was very conspicuous during this epoch, according to the above reports.

The colonial church-goer came naturally by his proclivities, his father and grandfather were even greater persecutors, as Macaulay intimates. They interdicted, under heavy penalties, the use of the book of common prayer; not only in churches, but even in private houses. It was a crime in a child to read, at the bedside of a sick parent, one of those beautiful collects which had soothed the grief of forty generations of Christians. Severe punishments were denounced against such as should presume to blame the colonistic mode of worship. Churches and sepulchres, fine works of art and curious remains of antiquity, were brutally defaced. Sharp laws were passed against betting. The adulterer was punished with death. All of the may-poles were hewn down. Play houses forbidden and actors whipped at the cart's tail.

Aside from the mental disorder of the churchmen, they suffered many physical ills in order to keep up the religious farce.

Think of going to church in cold winter days on foot through great snow drifts, and, with frozen limbs, sitting for an hour or two in the chilly atmosphere of an unwarmed sanctuary. Had it not been for the advent of the tavern later on, where the noon was spent over lunch and hot

older, the worshippers would have waned to a great degree. The introduction of the foot-warmer, which was supplied with hot coals by the sexton, materially comforted the frozen martyrs; but this innovation, like the stove, was fought against as detracting from the enthusiasm of the preacher and the glory of the "pitch pipe" leader. So great was the objection to stoves that one speaker [possibly facetiously] remarked: "We do not need a stove in this house to warm it; the preaching is hot enough for that purpose." How different the customs of our fathers from those of to-day. Perhaps the churchgoer of a century to come may say the same thing of us. Time changes all things.

F. T. R.

BLADE TEMPERANCE LEGION.

MOTTO: "Of Ourselves We Will be Masters."

Pledge:

We do hereby promise ourselves that, from this time until we are 21 years old, we will not taste intoxicating liquors of any kind, and that we will exert all our influence to prevent their use by others. Witness our names:

BRAIDWOOD, ILL.
Samuel H Noal
Peter Howet
Ben Howert
Samuel Bain
Helena Travers
Helena Cleaver
Peter Barr
B Davel
James Mulligan
Robert Steret
Coone Allen
Susan Arthur
Peter Beck
Charles Beck
M Balentine
C Balentine
Dan Barr
Nellie Bain
Millie Bain
Willie Barr
Robert Bain
Andrew Butler
Grace Backus
Etie Backus
Samuel Bean
James Bowie
Mary Barnet
Sadie Barnet
Fannie Barnet
J Cunningham
Thomas Cunningham
Charles Cooley
Wm Cooley
Robert Cunningham
James Davison
Grace Earle
Jennie Earle
Ellen Freeman
Lizz F Howet
May Howet
Rose Howet
Andrew Hunter
Willie Jones
Joseph Jeffery
James Jeffery
Willie Jones
Mary Jones
Joseph Jones
Isabel Cain
Grace Cain
Wm Kilpatrick
Joseph Keagley
Eleanor Keheler
Fannie Kilpatrick
Cunie Kilpatrick
David Loftie
Ella Malone
James McNulty
Janet Pearson
Clara Patterson
Robert Paden
D B Patterson
D Warner
Mary Young
Allen Denslow
Millie Templeton
Maggie Ferguson
Maggie Cardwell
Thomas McLain
Rachel Mulligan
Jennie Mulligan
Mollie Templeton
Anna Breadon
John Wilson
James Bain
Annie Master
Jennie Smyth
Willie Howet
John Colley
Birdie Howe
Robert Bean
James Jeffery
Clarence Patrick
Wm Rinken
Milburt Reade
Maggie Strahen
Agnes Steen
May Steen
Lane Steen
Rachel Steen
Archie Jeffery
Rachel Dinsmore
Moses Duerely
Thomas Hillers
Thomas Huffman
George Mahor
Frank Snider
Alex Dimson
John Barriman
Maggie Steward
Wm Leeb
Effie Wear
Jane Walker

UNADILLA, NEB.
Harry Vaughan
Sadie Vaughan
Elsie M Vaughan
Jerome Gardner
Fred G Gardner
Willie M Gardner
Clarence Wilson
Elmer E Monahan
George M Porter
Frank L Russell
Eddie Russell
Herbert Russell
Wm Russell
Nettie Russell

WESTVILLE, IND.
Bertha A Brewer
Ada May Harris
May Talmage
Bert Talmage
Julia Brown
Carrie Morris
Eva Culbertson
Roy Hilton
Charley Bradley
Hessie Gray
Frank Cole
May Reed
Adda Hoard
Jessie Dobman
Clarence Dagsy
Edith Harris
Edith Dagsy
Olive Hilon
Stella Reynolds
Myrtle Thompson
Rhoda Welch

MOORESTOWN, PA.
Jennie T Mercer
Sadie B Campbell
May I Chapman
Effie M Wright
Emma A Chapman
Alice B Chapman
Harry C Feaney
Belle Wright
Cora B Wright
Mabel R Laughlin
Walter Campbell
Susan Mary Campbell
Lizzie S Campbell
Charles W Chapman
Maud Chapman

DILLES, NEB.
I C Grocery
A D Stotts
Eva Meikle
Leroy Bardwell
Carrie Rathbun
Paulina Ellis
Alice Rathbun
Lizzie Rathbun
Wm Larson
Harry Meikle
Ezra Bardwell
Leone Ellis
Mattie Reble
Joseph Burish

OAKDALE, IOWA.
Ray R St John
Belle Marsh
Keats Goss
Maud Goss
Iva B Goss
Ollie Thompson
Fred Thompson
Frank Thompson
Ralph Thompson
Lucy A Palmerton
Maude Steward
Robert Steen
Archia Steen
David Skelton
Johnny Skeldon
Jennie Streeter
Andrew Streeter
Dunes Streeter
Peter Strothers
James Strothers
Anna J Skelden
Wm Forrer
Nellie P Palmerton
Minnie Palmerton
Frank Palmerton
Charles Howe
Mab

Talmage's Sermon.

IN MEMORY OF HENRY W. GRADY.

A Gushing Tribute to the Ability of the Late Southern Newspaper Man, in the Usual Style of Exaggeration Employed by the Famous Brooklyn Divine.

BROOKLYN, Feb. 23—The great Academy of Music, its main floors and its two galleries and platform and all approaches to the building were as usual, thronged at the evening service of the Rev. T. De Witt Talmage, D. D., to-day. Many hundreds of persons did not gain admittance. After an exposition by Dr. Talmage of passages of Scripture descriptive of the influence of the pen, James Montgomery's hymn was sung:

Who are these in bright array,
This innumerable throng,
Round the altar night and day?
Tuning one triumphant song!

The subject of Dr. Talmage's sermon was "The Life and Death of Henry W. Grady, the Editor and Orator." He took for his text Isaiah viii., 1: "Take thee a great roll, and write in it with a man's pen." "The preacher said:

To Isaiah, with royal blood in his veins and a habitant of palaces, does this divine order come. He is to take a roll, a large roll, and write on it with a pen, not an angel's pen, but a man's pen. So God honored the pen and so he honored manufactured the pen and so he honored manufactured the pen and so he honored manufactured

WASHINGTON NEWS.

FIFTY-FIRST CONGRESS.

Deliberations of the Two Houses for the week.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 18.—At the close of morning business the Senate at 12:50, on motion of Mr. Sherman, proceeded to the consideration of executive business. The doors were re-opened at 3:10. The educational bill came up as the unfinished business and Mr. Blair proceeded with his address.

The House bill for the relief of the Sioux Indians at Devil's Lake Agency, N. D., (exactly similar to the Senate bill passed a few days since) was passed and the Senate bill was recalled from the House.

After a brief executive session at which the British extradition treaty was ratified the doors were reopened and the Senate adjourned, Mr. Blair mentioning that he would occupy two days more in presenting his facts to the Senate.

There was no objection from the minority side of the House this morning to the approval of the journal of yesterday's proceedings.

The Senate bill providing for the appointment of an assistant secretary of War was laid before the House. The House went into committee of the Whole, Mr. Burrows, of Michigan, in the chair, and Mr. Cutcheon, of Michigan, made a brief explanation of the necessity for the appointment of an assistant secretary of War.

Mr. Washington, of Tennessee, recognized in the bill an attack upon the surplus. He warned the other side to go slowly in these matters. After the Blair bill and other measures involving enormous appropriations had been passed it would be found that there was little or no surplus. There was no real necessity for any more assistant secretaries. The chief duty of the first assistant postmaster-general since the 4th of March seemed to have been to decapitate Democratic postmasters.

Mr. Breckinridge, of Kentucky, said there was need of civil influence in the department. Somebody should be there to assist the secretary; somebody who was responsible to the people, who would bring the army nearer to the people. A great sum of money had been wasted in a hole in the ground here, the Washington aqueduct. The responsible officer had been court-martialed and sentenced to a punishment that was absolutely ludicrous. The army officer was an admirable specimen of a man, but a narrow specimen, made so by a one-sided education.

Mr. McAdoo agreed with Mr. Breckinridge that the punishment of the army officer who was responsible for that tunnel failure was a disgrace to the army, and that it tended to bring congressional interference into contempt. But he held that the appointment of an assistant secretary of War would not have prevented that fiasco.

At this point the committee rose and the House proceeded to consider the special order, being the bill to provide a temporary government for Oklahoma.

WASHINGTON Feb. 19.—The Senate has passed a bill to sell the Ft. Bliss., Tex., reservation.

Mr. Cullom, from the inter-state commerce commission, reported a preamble and resolution, which were agreed to, reciting the allegation that by reason of excessive freight rates the line of railroad, the only means of communication of country lying between the Rocky Mountains and the principal food distributing centers in the East, is unable to market its food products and to obtain for them the actual cost of production, and directing the committee to investigate such allegation.

In the House.

Mr. Butterworth, from the committee on patents, presented a favorable report upon the bill providing for the appointment of representatives to the International Industrial conference at Madrid, April 1 next, but Mr. Rogers, of Arkansas, objected to its consideration.

Mr. Rowell, of Illinois, chairman of the Election committee, gave notice that he would call up the Atkinson-Pendleton case on Wednesday next.

Mr. Adams, of Illinois, from the Judiciary committee, called up, and the House passed the bill to divide the judicial district of North Dakota into four district courts, to be held at Bismarck, Grand Forks, Fargo and Devil's Lake; also a similar bill providing for the division of South Dakota into three judicial districts, to be held at Sioux Falls, Pierre and Deadwood.

The House also passed bills creating the eastern division of the northern federal judicial district of Georgia, providing for terms and place of holding United States courts in the district of Minnesota; regulating the sitting of the United States courts in the district of South Carolina, and Senate bill authorizing the President to confer Brevet rank upon army officers for gallant services in Indian campaigns since 1867.

At 12 p. m. the House went into committee of the whole on the bill for an appointment of an assistant secretary of War. After some discussion the committee rose and favorably reported the bill to the House, and then the House resumed consideration of the Oklahoma bill.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 20.—SENATE.—After some routine business had been disposed of, the resolution heretofore offered by Mr. Chandler, calling on the attorney-general for information as to the assassination at Quincy, Fla., of W. H. Pasco, United States deputy marshal, was taken up and Mr. Pasco resumed his remarks in regard to it.

Mr. Chandler said the Democrats of Florida as a body, in the election of the state where these election frauds were committed, were engaged in the defense of those criminals by killing the witnesses and deputy marshals, and there was in that section of the state an absolute rebellion against and a defiance of the laws of the United States.

Mr. Call moved to refer the resolution to the judiciary committee. The motion was rejected—yeas 19, nays 25.

On motion of Mr. Chandler Mr. Pasco's amendment was laid on the table—yeas 25, nays 18; and the resolution calling on the attorney general for information as to the assassination of Saunders was agreed to without division.

The educational bill was then taken up, and Mr. Blair proceeded with his argument in support of it.

The House devoted the day to the discussion of the World's Fair bill.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 21.—The conference report on the bill to increase the pensions of totally disabled pensioners was presented by Mr. Dave's, and was agreed to, after an explanation to the effect that under the act of 1880 it has been provided that totally disabled pensioners then drawing $50 a month, should receive $72; that the increase did not apply to those who were pensioned thereafter; that the bill, as it passed the Senate, was intended to correct that omission; that the House had amended it so as to allow arrears of pensions in such cases; that the conference was on that point, and that the result was practically the adoption of the Senate bill as originally passed—no arrears being allowed.

The Oklahoma town site bill was discussed.

In the House the debate was continued on the World's Fair bill.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 22.—This being Washington's birthday, neither House was in session.

WASHINGTON, Feb. 24.—Mr. Chandler rose to a question of privilege and took Mr. Call to task for changing his (Call's) speech in the Congressional Record. The Blair educational bill was then discussed.

In the House Chicago was awarded the world's fair on the eighth ballot by a vote of: Chicago, 157; New York, 107; St. Louis, 25; Washington, 18.

To the Republican Clubs.

President Harrison has written J. M. Thurston, president of the Republican club league, this letter:

DEAR SIR:—It gives me pleasure to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 27th ultimo, extending on behalf of the executive committee of the Republican league of the United States, an invitation to attend the third annual convention of the league, to be held at Nashville, Tenn., on March 4th.

While I cannot accept the invitation, neither can I refrain from expressing my interest in the success of your proposed meeting, and in the patriotic and useful activity of the clubs which will be represented. Such organizations are wholesome and desirable, not only from a party but from a public standpoint.

They interest the young men in public affairs, and organize the interest thus excited into controlling political forces. The party to which you belong has never suffered by an intelligent discussion of its history or its principles; and I am sure your organization will continue to furnish courageous and well-appointed champions wherever the lists of debate are opened. I doubt not that you will be cordially received by the people of Nashville, and beg to express the hope that your meeting may be both successful and pleasant. Very truly yours, BENJAMIN HARRISON.

Too Little Regard for Law.

Representative E. B. Taylor, of Ohio, on Feb. 20, introduced in the House a resolution reciting the fact that the practice of suspending sentence in criminal cases after conviction prevails in many of the United States District courts, and particularly in Oklahoma, and directing the judiciary committee to inquire into the cause, extent and result of the practice. Provision is made for sending a subcommittee to such places as may be necessary to pursue the investigation and for the protection of witnesses and papers.

The Extradition Treaty.

As stated in these dispatches last week, the Senate has ratified the British extradition treaty. The following additional crimes are extraditable:

Voluntary manslaughter, counterfeiting or altering money and bringing it into circulation, embezzlement, larceny, receiving stolen property, etc., fraud of all kinds, perjury, rape and abduction, burglary, piracy by the laws of nations, revolt or conspiracy to revolt on the high seas, and crimes against the laws of both countries concerning slavery.

Political criminals are exempted from the provisions of the treaty.

After the Law-Breakers.

Senator Ingalls (by request) introduced a bill to amend the interstate commerce law by providing that any person shipping or smuggling intoxicating liquors into a state or territory that forbids the sale of it shall be deemed to be guilty of a misdemeanor; and any railroad company that transports the same shall be fined $100 for each offense.

Standard Silver Dollars.

The issue of standard silver dollars from the mints during the week ended February 22, was $305,659. The issue during the corresponding period of last year was $328,190. The shipments of fractional silver coins since the 1st inst. amounts to $256,859.

APPOINTMENTS.

The Latest List Sent in by the President.

The President sent the following nominations to the Senate on Feb. 20;

Alonzo Cleaver, register of the land office, La Grande, Ore.; William H. Pratt, surveyor-general of California; receivers of public monies, Edward M. Lane, Valentine, Neb.; Quimby Vance, Las Cruces, N. M.; Benjamin S. Williams, Yankton, S. D.

Levi P. Pond, pension agent at Milwaukee; Fred Babcock, receiver of public moneys at Des Moines. Registers of land offices—Albert K. Dixon, at Susanville, Cal.; Edwin G. Waite, San Francisco; John W. Lewis, The Dalles, Ore.; C. M. Day, Lewiston, Iowa; Winfield S. Cobrean, Roswell, N. M.; Alfred M. Strong, Spokane Falls, Wash.; John C. Martin, Prescott, Ariz. Webster R. Stabler, agent at the Yakima Indian agency, Wash. Alfred D. Thomas, U. S. district judge, district of North Dakota.

The President sent to the Senate the following nominations on Feb. 21:

Postmasters: Vest Virginia—Samuel H. Higginbotham, Charlestown. Mississippi—Henry C. Griffin, Natchez. Texas—Benjamin B. Lowrie, Havasota; Robert C. Ballentyne, Brackettville. Alabama—Wm. T. Ewing, Gadsden. Georgia—Madison Davis, Athens. Pennsylvania—John W. Miller, Lewisburg; Wm. A. Kaup, Hanover; Andrew J. Bingham, New Brighton; Adam T. Darr, West Newton; Valentine W. Medear, Mahanoy City; George F. Morgan, Nanticoke. Kentucky—Edward E. Watkins, Williamsburg. Ohio—P. M. Cartmell, Springfield; John S. Wolfe, Shelby; Philo S. Clark, Portsmouth; Charles T. Baxter, Mechanisburg; James F. Sarratt, Steubenville. Michigan—Jno. E. Nesell, Manchester; John Graham, Buchanan. Kansas—William C. Charles, Kiowa; Thos. E. Hudley, Minneapolis. Minnesota—Josiah E. West, St. Cloud; Josiah A. Peck, Wabash. Wisconsin—Frank B. Hand, Hurley. Nebraska—Henry H. Troth, McGook. Oregon—Miss Jessie G. Baker, La Grande. California—Frederick Ave. Eureka; Morgan H. Baithache, Martinez; William S. Vawter, Santa Monica. Colorado Springs—Charles Ford. Gunnison; Homer H. Grafton, Manitou Springs.

Albert F. Price, to be United States marshal for the district of North Dakota, was nominated on Feb. 24.

The President sent to the Senate the following nominations on Feb. 25:

Harold M. Sewall, of Maine, to be consul-general of the United States at Apia.

To be consuls of the United States—Henry W. Andrews, of Ohio, at Hankow; John Fowler, of Massachusetts, at Saigon; Wm. B. McCreery, of Michigan, at Valparaiso; John S. Treadwell, of Pennsylvania, at Naples.

Treasury—Charles E. Fitch, collector of internal revenue, twenty-eighth district of New York; Richard G. Banks, collector of customs for the districts of Norfolk and Portsmouth, Va.; Elwood W. Matteson, surveyor of customs at Chattanoga, Tenn.; Robert N. Pearson, appraiser of merchandise at Chicago.

CENSUS SUPERVISORS.

The Appointees Selected During the Past Week.

Supervisors of the census—Louisiana, Geo. Bolday, First district; Texas, Edward T. Terrill, Eighth district; Illinois, Oscar F. Avery, Fourth district; Wisconsin, Jas. L. Ederman, Fifth district; Oregon, John Kelley, First district; Oklahoma, I. T., Harry P. Clark.

THE WORLD'S FAIR.

Chicago Gets the Prize—The Vote in the House.

On the evening of Feb. 24, the House of Representatives decided to hold the World's Fair in 1892 at Chicago.

The fight over the site for the World's Fair is regarded as finally settled by the action of the House. New York's leading representative took the receipt their defeat calmly and philosophically, and consider it final. They say that New York, despite many drawbacks, has made a gallant fight, and that now that they have been beaten they bow gracefully to the situation and intend to do what they can to make the fair a success.

The following table shows the votes each city received, a majority of all votes cast being necessary for choice:

	1st	2d	3d	4th	5th	6th	7th	8th
Chicago	115	121	127	134	140	149	155	157
New York	72	83	92	95	110	116	112	107
St. Louis	61	59	53	48	38	28	27	25
Washg'n	56	46	31	29	24	19	17	18
	304	309	306	306	312	312	311	307

REED'S POPULARITY.

He is Liked by Everybody, Including the Democrats.

Those people who suppose that Thomas Brackett Reed is personally unpopular with the Democratic members of the House, are in error. To be sure he hasn't as many friends among the Democrats as he has among Republicans, but he has lots of warm friends among his political opponents. They are having a good laugh in the House over Bynum's attempt to bulldoze the speaker.

Reed had been counting a quorum and never failed to name Breckinridge, of Kentucky, and Bynum, of Indiana, when he needed a few to legalize the proceedings. Breckinridge has been intimate with Reed for many years, and when he asked Reed not to call his name on those occasions his request was granted. Bynum noticed that Breckinridge's name was not being called, and he went over to the Kentuckian and asked him what he had done to prevent it.

Breckinridge said he had told Reed that he would make it a personal matter with him if he named him again in an effort to make a quorum.

Then Bynum marched down the aisle to the Speaker's chair with a "see-me-bulldoze-him" air on his face.

"I don't want you to call my name again," said Bynum, when he got up close to the Speaker's side, "if you do," and then he looked quite threateningly, "I'll make it a personal matter with you."

Reed smiled, nodded his head in a manner that Bynum may have taken for acquiescence, and within five minutes had called Bynum once more. He has never missed since. And Breckinridge laughs.

The New Silver Bill.

The Silver bill to be reported by the Senate committee on Finance as a substitute for the several bills on that subject referred to it, is understood to be in shape for action by the committee. It has been drawn up after consultation with the Senatorial advocates of free silver coinage, and they have agreed to accept and support it.

The principal features of the bill are stated to be these: The secretary of the Treasury is authorized to increase the purchase of silver bullion from two to four and a half millions a month.

The requirement in the present law that the coinage of silver shall be at the rate of not less than two millions a month, is stricken out. The secretary is also authorized to purchase gold bullion in unrestricted quantities. Upon this gold and silver bullion the secretary shall issue treasury notes in such denominations as he shall see fit, to be redeemable in lawful money.

The Lottery Question.

Senator Sawyer has introduced a bill to amend certain sections of the revised statutes relating to lotteries. It provides that no letter or circular concerning the advertisement of lotteries or so-called gift enterprises, for the distribution of money by chance, and intended to deceive the public, shall be sent through the mails. Any person found guilty of using the mails for this purpose shall be fined not less that $100 nor more than $500. The postmaster general may also, upon finding any person engaged in this business, instruct the postmaster at towns to which registered letters are sent in answer to such advertisements, to return them to the persons who mailed them, with the word "Fraudulent" stamped on the outside.

Bond Purchase Ruling.

No more 4 per cent bonds will be purchased by the Treasury department until further notice, the time within which Secretary Windom offered to accept them at 124 in liquidation of public deposits with National banks, having expired on Feb 20. The total amount purchased to date on this account is about $12,000,000, of which $7,000,000 were surrendered under the first call for a reduction of the fund. Of the 80 banks included in the second call, favorable responses have already been received from 65, which surrendered over $5,000,000 in government bonus, 32 of the banks going out of the system altogether.

Meat Inspection.

The bill reported favorably by Senator Sherman, from the committee on Foreign Relations, provides for an inspection of meats for exportation, and prohibits the importation of adulterated articles of food or drink. Pork or bacon may be exported without inspection when it has been packed for more than 60 days. The importation of cattle, sheep and swine, which are diseased or have been exposed to infection, is prohibited; also adulterated or unwholesome food or liquors mixed with an ingredient deleterious to health.

Brazil Is Congratulated.

The President has approved the joint resolution congratulating the people of Brazil on their adoption of a republican form of government, and that for the relief of the sufferers by the wreck of the United States steamship Nipsic at Apia, Samoa Islands.

THE PENSION BUREAU.

Some Changes Suggested—Too Much Red Tape.

Quiet underground agitation is now going on to the end that there may be a transfer of the pension bureau from the department of the Interior to the War department. Secretary Proctor is willing to assume the responsibility but Secretary Noble is not quite willing to give up such a large slice of his official domain.

It would be a bad move anyhow, for as things are constituted and arranged, the War department is doing what it can to prevent the successful prosecution of thousands of legitimate claims for pensions. Secretary Proctor may not be directly responsible for this—I don't think he is—but he ought to know what some of his principal subordinates are doing.

In charge of that portion of the surgeon-general's office which supplies the pension office with its records is one Capt. Ainsworth, a business martinet of the most aggravated description. He gets more work out of his men than would be believed possible, but he does it at the expense of the wounded, poverty-stricken veterans who are compelled by circumstances to ask the country to make good some of the promises which were so generally circulated during the war of the rebellion.

Information required by the Pension office is now given, by Ainsworth's instructions, in such abbreviated forms that it is often useless. Ainsworth's attention has been directed to this times without number, but no change has been made except in the way of further abbreviation. One of the most unjust of Ainsworth's many anti-pension actions was the issuing of an order that where a claimant gave a certain date as the time when he was wounded or in hospital and the records failed to corroborate the claimant's statement in the matter of date the pension office was to be notified that there was no record to support the claim.

It is only natural that after so many years had passed by that the wounded and suffering man should not be always able to give the exact date of his entrance into hospital, but Ainsworth pays no attention to that.

Not very long ago one of his clerks—drawing a $1,400 salary—went to him and showed him the statement of a claimant who said he was in a hospital being treated for an amputation made by a rebel bullet. The old soldier said he was in the surgeon's charge from the 11th day of May, 1864; the hospital records showed that he was admitted May 22.

"I can not conscientiously tell the Pension Bureau that there is no hospital record in this man's case on the date he gives," said the clerk. "His memory has slipped up a little on dates, and I would be criminal to defend his claim on such an unfair technicality. I can not make the report you demand of us."

"You can't, eh?" sneered Ainsworth. "Well, I will try to find some one who can."

When that clerk arrived at the office the next morning, he received a notification that his salary had been reduced to $1,200 and his work located in the most disagreeable and unhealthy portion of the old Ford's theater building—now rented by the War department. Ainsworth needs shaking up.

TO FIGHT REED.

The Disgruntled Bourbons Going Into the Courts.

It is understood that the Democratic leaders in the House have held several conferences lately to consider the question of testing the constitutionality of Speaker Reed's ruling that "members present but not voting, shall be counted to make a quorum."

Indeed, Mr. Carlisle virtually foreshadowed such action in his remarks in the House on the 18th instant, when he said: "This question must go to some other forum when a proper case arises, and I desire to say that it is the purpose of this side of the House to see that this question shall be made in some form which will enable the proper tribunals of the country to pass upon it finally and decisively."

When asked on Feb. 19 what he meant by a proper case arising, Mr. Carlisle said: "I mean whenever a bill is passed which affects the rights of an individual or of property.

"Then the person or corporation whose rights are abridged, or whose property is affected, may seek redress in the courts by testing the constitutionality of the bill, passed under Speaker Reed's ruling as to what constitutes a quorum. Of course, we cannot take the matter before the courts; we can only refrain from voting on some measures which will involve the rights of some person or property, and so create the occasion for testing the constitutionality of the Speaker's decision. We are all convinced it will not stand.

"A good measure of which to make the test would be an amendment to the interstate commerce law. Such legislation affects large interests, and the parties affected adversely would at once question the validity of the legislation.

"I think the issue will be made before this session is over, though when I made those remarks I had no especial piece of legislation in view. I doubt whether the Republicans will attempt to pass any important legislation by any such method. When vital matters are up you will find them there with a legal quorum."

Ex-Governor McCreary, of Kentucky, said in regard to the same subject: "We are agreed to have the question settled in the courts, but we have not yet had an opportunity given us. If Representative Jackson, of West Virginia, had been unseated by less than a quorum there would have been a chance to test the constitutionality of the ruling, but there was a quorum of Republicans present to turn him out.

"We are watching, and the first chance we get we will force the Speaker to make his ruling so as to have it tested. But you can't raise the question on motions to adjourn. It must be such legislation as interferes with the rights of an individual or affects property where the interest affected will question the constitutionality of the legislation."

The Bankruptcy Bill.

The Taylor (Torrey) bankruptcy bill was completed by the House committee on Judiciary on Feb. 20, and Mr. E. B. Taylor, the chairman, was authorized to report it favorably to the House. There will be majority and minority reports submitted to the House.

The bill contains numerous amendments to the form in which it was introduced, but it is said that none of them are of a radical nature. Congressman Culberson, of Texas, received permission to report, as a minority measure, the bankruptcy bill introduced by him.

A War-Flag Bill.

A bill was reported to the House on Feb. 20 from the committee on military affairs, authorizing the secretary of War to turn over to the state of Colorado the flags now in the custody of the War department that were carried by troops enlisted in the United States service from Colorado during the war.

SWISS CONFERENCE.

The Programme Which is to Form the Basis for Action.

The Swiss government has issued the programme which is to form the basis of the labors and inquiries of the Labor conference. It includes the following points:

1. In what degree, if at all, should the state restrict Sunday work?

2. What is the minimum age below which the employment of children in factories should be prohibited?

3. What should be fixed as a maximum day's work for workmen or women under full age?

4. Should the hours of compulsory attendance at school, which are now required by law, be counted as part of a day's work for juvenile workers?

5. Should the maximum length of a day's work for juveniles vary according to the ages; and during what hours should the working time be fixed?

6. What restrictions are necessary in the employment of women and children in unhealthy and dangerous occupations?

7. Should the state permit the employment of women and children in occupations carried on at night time?

8. How can the state best put into effect and enforce the labor regulations it makes?

Finally the programme submits to the conference the proposition for periodical conferences, which will become an established institution if this conference approves the idea.

Murdered Fourteen Children.

A terrible story of wholesale infanticide was revealed by firemen who were at work on the debris after the burning of a house located in Sienna street, Warsaw, on February 24. Beneath the floor of the burned building the corpses of fourteen infants were found. The establishment was presided over by a midwife named Skobliuska. This woman and her sister and two daughters are now under arrest.

N. P. W. C. T. U.

A branch of the non-Partisan Woman's Christian Temperance Union, of which Mrs. J. Ellen Foster, of Iowa, is the recognized leader, was formed in Chicago on Feb. 21.

GENERAL NEWS.

KANSAS SUGAR MAKING.

No Longer Any Doubt About Its Practicability.

State Sugar Inspector Kellogg, of Kansas, has presented to the state agricultural department his annual report regarding the sugar industry, which has developed so rapidly during the past two years. His report is of the most encouraging nature as to the future of the industry.

He says there can be no longer any doubt as to the practicability of the manufacture of sugar from Kansas sorghum. "In the dry and undeveloped portions of the state, where corn and other cereals are a partial or total failure, sorghum will always flourish.

"The southern tier of counties in the state, as far west as the west line of Barber county, is at present the cream of the sugar district.

"Sorghum has been cultivated for ten consecutive years, without a single failure in Rice county, though some miles west of this it has been frequently seriously damaged and of but little value for making sugar.

"The possibilities for the successful culture of the sugar beet have opened a new field of inquiry, and it will take at least one or two seasons before the sugar district can be clearly defined. Vast tracts of land in the western part of the state are lying idle, which in time may produce the richest cane; but for the present, in the light of past experience, it is a hazardous undertaking to establish a plant west of the 99th meridian, unless supplied with a never-failing system of irrigation."

IOWA DEADLOCK BROKEN.

Hamilton, Democrat, Elected Speaker on the 127th Roll Call.

The Democratic caucus on February 19 decided to accept the Republican proposition for a compromise if the Republicans would concede them two more committees. The Republicans went into caucus to consider the matter. The Democratic conference committee asked the Republicans, in addition to conceding two committees, to give up the assistant postmasters, two doorkeepers and an engrossing clerk. The Republicans answered the Democrats by saying they (the Democrats) could make the modifications desired and present to the Republican caucus as a give-or-take proposition and the Republicans would bind themselves to accept one side or the other.

When the announcement was made that the Democrats had accepted the proposition made by the Republicans, the House chamber was the scene of great activity. Up to date, in five weeks and three days sessions, ninety-one ballots have been taken on temporary clerk and 126 on Speaker.

The House was called to order at 4 o'clock p. m., on Feb. 16, and on motion of Walden, adjournment was taken till 7:30. The Republicans went into caucus at once to nominate persons to fill the vacancies on the ticket and determine what committees they would have.

At the evening session of the House, on the 127th roll call, Hamilton, Democrat, was unanimously elected speaker. Cheatly, of Mills, and Johnson, of Dubuque, members who were in the deadlock of 1874, were appointed a committee to escort the permanent speaker to the chair. The oath of office was administered by Hotchkins and after a few remarks Hamilton assumed the duties of his office. The remainder of the officers were then chosen. The rules of the Twenty-Second General Assembly were adopted until rules can be reported upon.

GOLD IN MONTANA.

Over 12,000 Mining Claims Located in the New State.

A letter received from Maiden, Mont., says that the north half of the state is aroused over the unexpected discoveries of placer gold mines, quartz and silver and lead galena in the mountain spurs and hills of the Great Reservation, as well as in the Belt Mountains, which have already contributed so much to the mineral wealth of Montana. The Spotted Horse Mine, one of a series of six quartz claims near Maiden, is crushing enough rock with a 20-stamp mill to turn out every month $100,000 in bullion.

The Great Northern's railroad extension from Great Falls will hasten the development of that section into one of the richest mineral belts in America. The state mining inspector says that over 12,000 mining claims have been located in Montana under the United States mining laws, of which number perhaps one-half have been prospected sufficiently to show the character and position of the ore beds, in which prospects look as bright and promising as the now opulent Granite, Anaconda and Drum Lummon did at the same stage of development. Of these not more than 2,000 have been fully opened and have market value, but many of them, being remote from railways and smelters, are not yet in active operation.

The railway extensions from this city will help out a great number of these awaiting mines. With the surface of this vast state scarcely scratched in the search for the precious metals, yet for several years Montana has led the country. The combined value of the gold, silver, copper and lead output, the rich and unexpected discoveries of pay gravel and ore veins in the hills and buttes of the Great Reservation and in the Belt mountains, will this year make a large addition to the grand total of mining claims and lift Montana still higher in the scale as the greatest producer of precious metals in America.

A BROKEN DAM.

The Loss of Life at One Place Will Count Up to Forty.

A courier reached Phœnix, Ariz., on Feb. 25, from the lower Hassayampa, and reports that a tremendous mountain of water came down the Hassayampa at about 2 o'clock Saturday morning, and that 34 men lost their lives at the lower dam, where they were at work. Thirty-one were whites and three Chinese. The courier reports the town of Wickenburg all right.

The loss of life in the valley between Wickenburg and the dam may not be known for some days, but is without doubt considerable, and the number may possibly reach thirty or forty. The courier states that the upper dam had undoubtedly broken and carried the two dams below down with it. The loss of property in the dams alone will amount to about $800,000.

The entire valley from the dam to Wickenburg is inhabited principally by Mexican miners and ranchmen. The fall of rain and snow has been very heavy in the mountains for the last month, and east, and the water here is very high. Salt river rose seventeen feet in fifteen hours Saturday morning. The railroad bridge across it is washed away for 200 feet, and half a mile of track on the bank of the river is gone.

Mrs. J. G. Blaine, Jr.

The performance at the Broadway theater New York, on Feb. 18, for the benefit of Mrs. Jas. G. Blaine, jr., who is very ill and likely to be permanently an invalid, netted nearly $4,000. The audience was the largest ever known at the Broadway. Among the many prominent persons present were Kate Chase Sprague, Geo. Gould, Mrs. Wm. Astor and R. Fulton Cutting.

The Salt Lake Campaign.

Politics closed at Salt Lake city for the season by a grand torchligh parade and fireworks in honor of the Gentile city administration, which took possession on Feb. 19. There were upwards of 1,000 men in line, and a party ascended Ensign Peak and had bonfires there and burned red lights. It was a brilliant close of the campaign.

Hiram Sawtelle's Remains.

The remains of Hiram F. Sawtelle, after brief funeral services at the late residence of deceased in Boston, Feb. 20, were taken to Forest Hill cemetery and placed in the receiving tomb, where they will await any possible action of the authorities that may be necessary before final interment.

Australian Ballot System.

The North Dakota state Senate on February 20, by a vote of 21 to 8, adopted the Australian election system, and the House passed the bill offering a bounty during the next five years for the production of potato starch and beet sugar in North Dakota.

Silver Bow County's Sheriff.

Judge McHatton, of Butte, Montana, has decided the shrievalty case in Silver Bow county in favor of Sullivan (Democrat.) It is possible the case will be appealed.

JOHN JACOB ASTOR DEAD.

Heart Failure Supposed to Have Been the Cause.

John Jacob Astor died suddenly at 4 o'clock a. m., Feb. 22, at his residence, Thirty-Third street and Fifth avenue, New York city. His death was unexpected by his family. It is supposed to be due to heart failure.

Mr. Astor complained on the previous day that he was feeling unwell, but in the evening he went out to dinner. Soon after his return home he became so ill that his family were greatly alarmed and sent for their physician, Dr. Fordyce Barker, who resides near by at 34 East 38th street.

He at once hastened to Mr. Astor's bedside, but when he reached it he found his patient already dying. Hardly any pulse was perceptible. Mr. Astor continued to sink slowly until 4 o'clock in the morning when he died. There were present at his death bed William Waldorf Astor and a couple of other relatives.

John Jacob Astor was the elder son of the late Wm. Astor and grandson of the original John Jacob Astor, who founded the fortunes of the family. He was the head of the third generation of the Astor family.

He was born about 65 years ago. In 1875 his father died leaving John Jacob a two-thirds share of his estate, valued at $200,000,000. During the civil war Mr. Astor went to the front and served with credit as an aide-de-camp to General McClellan.

He married a Miss Gibbs, of South Carolina, who died about two years ago. He is succeeded by his only son, William Waldorf Astor, who was minister to Italy some years ago.

John Jacob Astor the first, was born in 1763, the third son of poor peasants, at Waldorf, in Baden, and their name was usually spelled "Ashdoor." Indeed the elder brother of John Jacob the first signed his name "Henry Ashdor," even after he had come to America.

John Jacob Astor came to America in 1784, beginning with a stock in trade consisting of six flutes and two other musical instruments. He entered the employ of a furrier in this city, and in a few months mastered the trade, which was extremely profitable as carried on with the Indians.

Astor visited the Canadian woods, going on foot and carrying in a pack on his back baubles such as delighted the aborigines. He traded them for furs and carried the furs home on his back.

He made money, enlarged his business, using pack sleds and the like, and in a few years was doing an immense trade, getting the skins for literally nothing of the Indians, and sending them to the Orient, where they were exchanged for most valuable goods, teas, spices, Indian and Japanese silks and the like.

The profit averaged $30,000 to every cruise, and when in 1850 the old man died he left $20,000,000. He founded the Astor library at the urgent solicitation of Washington Irving, Sidgreen Halleck, and an old and trusted commercial friend.

He had been extremely penurious even to meanness, and delighted in saving pennies even when he was a millionaire. He had had three sons. The first died a babe. The second, named after himself, John Jacob Astor, was demented and was kept in the residence in West 23d street at his father's expense, and after his father's death, on the income of a fund of $100,000, set apart for that purpose. That John Jacob passed away, aged 60 years, some 30 years ago.

The Astor millions had been handed down to a third son, William B. Astor, and he it was who began the movement for better tenement houses in New York.

When William B. Astor died, he left the vastly increased family fortune to his eldest son, John Jacob Astor, the third, who is now dead.

Thomas G. Shearman, of the *Forum*, for November last set down John Jacob Astor's fortune at $150,000,000, making him the American Croesus.

Ohio a Salt State.

The United Salt company, with a capital of one million dollars, have filed articles of incorporation. The company will have works at Cleveland, at New Portage, Summit county, and at Newburg, a Cleveland suburb. Wells have been sunk and thick veins of rock salt have been found at a depth of 3,000 feet. Buildings have already been erected and operations will be commenced within a few months. The output of the three plants will be 5,000 barrels of refined salt per day. The incorporators of the United Salt company are New York, Cleveland and Akron capitalists.

Killed a Child to See the Funeral.

There was a lunacy inquiry on Feb. 19, before Judge Devens, in the Massachusetts Supreme court, in the case of W. H. Pray, aged 23, who murdered Verner M. Fisher, aged 3 years, in Weymouth, December 5, 1889. Witnesses of the medical profession testified that Pray was deficient in intelligence and cerebral development. The prisoner had told several doctors he killed the child because he liked to go to funerals and because the victim's elder brother had tormented him. Judge Devens ordered Pray taken to the Taunton lunatic hospital.

The Hurley Bank Robbers.

The trial of the Hurley bank robbers began at Ashland, Wis., on Feb. 19. The case of defendant Baker was taken to the Circuit court on a change of venue. The court denied a motion by the state to continue Perrin's trial to the next term, and the case proceeded. The state's motion to have a hearing on the charge of embezzlement made against Perrin was also denied. Judge Cole, of Stevens Point, and M. E. Lennon, of Hurley, appeared for Perrin, and J. Micklejohn for Baker. Judge Flanders, of Milwaukee, is assisting Prosecuting Attorney Rossman.

Married by Telephone.

Minnie Worley, aged 22, Telephone Exchange operator at South Bend, Indiana, and Frank Middleton, aged 25, in a like position at Michigan City, became acquainted over the wires during their night watches. Finally Middleton proposed in fun that they get married by telephone, and Minnie consented. A Michigan City justice was called in and performed a legal ceremony, but without the necessary state license. This occurred last week, and passed off as a joke. Now eminent legal talent pronounce the marriage legal.

The Rush Continues.

There is no falling away in the number of arrivals at Chamberlain, South Dakota. Every incoming train is heavily loaded with persons who intend to settle west of the river. The crossing has become perfectly safe again, the weather having turned considerably colder. Another crowd of town-site boomers settled on a tract of land six miles north of this city, on the west side of the river, a spot commonly known as Brule Bottom.

The Racing Season.

The Transatlantic steamship companies are opening the season of quick voyages across the Atlantic by putting into active service the noted racers of summer travel. The Inman line racer City of Paris started on her return trip Thursday, and a cablegram from Queenstown announced the sailing the same afternoon from that port of the Teutonic, the White Star line standard bearer.

Illinois the Scene of More Labor Troubles

Bayard Taylor's Mother Dead.

Mrs. Rebecca Way Taylor, mother of the late author and traveler, Bayard Taylor, died at her residence in Kennett Square, Pa., on February 19, after a brief illness, aged 90 years and 4 months. For a long time Mrs. Taylor has been one of the most interesting residents of Kennett, and her house, in the quaint Swiss cottage on Union street, a sort of mecca for travelers and visitors.

Found Him Guilty.

The jury in the Cronin jury bribing case at Chicago, on February 22, brought in a verdict, finding the only remaining defendant on trial, Jeremiah O'Donnell, guilty of the offense charged, and fixing his punishment at three years in the penitentiary.

Kavanaugh Goes Free.

The building contractor, Thomas Kavanaugh, a member of Camp 135, Clanna-Gael, of Chicago, accused of being implicated in attempts to bribe possible jurors on the Cronin trial, walked out of court a free man, on Feb. 20, having been acquitted.

Officially Acknowledged.

The South Dakota House has passed a joint resolution admitting that destitution exists in many parts of the state, and that the farmers must be furnished with seed wheat by public and private subscription.

The King of Wurtemburg is said to be dying.

News from Berlin is that the Government has now abandoned the Socialist bill.

GERMAN ELECTIONS.

Voting for Members of the Reichstag—A Little Surprise.

The general elections for members of the Reichstag took place on Feb. 20. The size of the vote polled was phenomenal. The election officials were overwhelmed with work and at many of the polling places were unable to cope with the crowds of electors who, during the dinner hour, hastened to deposit their votes. A majority of the factories were closed during the day.

The results of the election are now known in every district of the empire. They show that 246 members were elected, and that in 151 districts supplementary elections are necessary. The 246 elected are divided according to parties as follows: Conservatives, 52; Imperialists, 16; Centrists, 90; German Liberals, 22; National Liberals, 16; Socialists, 21; Asiatics, 12; Poles, 14; Guelphs, 2, and 1 Dane.

The Meaning of the Vote Cast for the Reichstag.

William Kaufman, editor of the Cleveland, Ohio, *Anzeiger*, says: The great victory of the conservatives is due to Bismarck and the anti-socialistic law, which was first made in 1876, and which has been renewed every two years since. The law expired by limitation at the end of two years and has been re-enacted by the Reichstag from time to time at the request of the government.

The German Reichstag cannot make laws as does our Congress, by agreement of the two Houses and signature of the President. In Germany the Bundesrath, which is formed by the representatives of the governments of the different municipalities of the empire, submits a law to the Reichstag and the latter can only accept or reject it. If it says no, the law will not stand, but the Reichstag cannot create laws if the Bundesrath does not agree to them.

This anti-socialistic law gives the police authority to suppress meetings of socialists and their press. Under it the police may expel any socialist from the city in which he resides. Singer, who has just been elected to the Reichstag from a Berlin district, had to leave Berlin when the sessions of the last Reichstag, of which he was also a member, were ended.

The natural consequences of such a law followed its enforcement. Men expelled from their homes went from place to place agitating, and the expulsion clause of the law helped spread the socialistic ideas. Every two years since 1876 this law came up before the Reichstag, and on each occasion Bismarck managed to get a majority for it by concessions made to different parties.

At last the government demanded that the law be made perpetual. Then several